



Westbury Crier

VOLUME 59, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2014

Fall White Elephant Sale Saturday, October 25 8AM-Noon

**Westbury United Methodist Church
Sign up for your booth space starting
September 10!**

This is the perfect opportunity to have that garage sale you have been wanting to have at your house but know you can't per long-standing policy of the Westbury Civic Club! Come early for your booth space, they sold out quickly in the Spring!

For more information regarding prices, dates, garage sale policy and more, see pages 6 & 7.



Westbury Annual Meeting September 17th

The 2014 Westbury Civic Club (WCC) Annual Meeting will be held on September 17 at Westbury Baptist Church, 10425 Hillcroft. Come hear the exciting update on the Westbury Community Garden, meet the new 2015 Board, and win some great door prizes!

**6PM—Meet & Greet
7PM—Annual Meeting**

Our District K Council Member Larry Green will be a speaker along with other elected officials. Come meet the new WHS Principal, Jason Catchings.



Hope to see you there!

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

Refreshments will be provided.

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Westbury Civic Club, Inc.

National Night Out October 7

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. For those who register before the deadline, we will also arrange for HPD, WAP Constables, or the WCC Board to visit your party. The first 10 parties to register will receive WCC promo items.

See page 8 for more info.

**Heavy Trash for
SEPTEMBER is
TREE WASTE
Pick-up for ALL
of Westbury is
Thursday,
SEPTEMBER 11
PLEASE DO NOT
PLACE TREE
WASTE ON
CURB UNTIL
SEPTEMBER 6**

Westbury Community Garden Land is SAVED!



The Westbury Civic Club is proud to announce that after two years of hard work the 7-acre site of the Westbury Community Garden is now safe from development. The September 2012 *Westbury Crier* alerted residents that the

Houston Housing Authority (HHA) had plans to build a 250 unit federal housing project on the 7-acre site plus adjoining Hillcroft frontage. The 7-acre site has been SAVED.

See page 9 for more about this exciting news!

Westbury Civic Club Board of Directors

President	Becky Edmondson	wccpresident@westburycrier.com
Vice President	Marcia Hartman	wccvp@westburycrier.com
Secretary	Mark Knoblauch	
Treasurer	Pamela Schertz	wcctreasurer@westburycrier.com

Directors at Large

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

Section Directors

Westbury 1	Sylvia Rendon	Westbury1@westburycrier.com
Westbury 2	Rocio Lara	
Westbury 3	Robert Montgomery	rmontgomery002@comcast.net
Westbury 3	Charlsey Porcarello	charlsey@swbell.net
Westbury 4	Eugene Sirls	
Westbury 4	VACANT	
Westbury 5	Virginia Livingston	Westbury5E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 5	VACANT	
Westbury South	Robert Capps	
Parkwest 1	William Grimsinger	
Parkwest 2	Jeffrey Weiss	jhweiss@yahoo.com
Parkwest 3	Joe Niles	Parkwest3@westburycrier.com

Westbury Civic Club Office

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 9:30AM-2:30PM*, 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)

NOTARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO ALL WESTBURY RESIDENTS during office hours or by appointment

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Westbury Area Patrol Constable Dispatch
281-463-6666

HPD Non-Emergency
713-884-3131

Power Outages (Centerpoint)
713-207-2222

Westbury HPD Storefront
713-726-7126

Platou Community Center
713-726-7107

Poison Control
1-800-764-7661

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

District K Councilmember Larry Green
832-393-3016

District C Councilmember Ellen Cohen
832-393-3004

County Commissioner El Franco Lee
713-755-6111

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

City of Houston 311 Hotline (for all Non-Emergency Issues)

Forestry Department
Graffiti
Hazardous Waste Disposal
Heavy Trash
Neighborhood Protection
Parking Management
Recycling
School Crossing Light Repairs
Water and Sewer Repair

Stay connected!

Are you one of the 1,111 likes on
our Facebook page,
Westbury Houston?

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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President's Message

Hip hip hooray! This month's *Crier* is full of good news. The best news? The Westbury Community Garden has been saved. After two years of uncertainty, the garden, its gardeners and the community can now breathe a sigh of relief. Our District K Councilmember Larry Green called it "a triumphant victory for the Westbury Community and District K". Our thanks go out to all those who gave of their time, their talent and their money to ensure the continuation of this very important community asset. I had the pleasure of speaking before City Council last month to thank them for supporting Westbury and our community garden. The people are truly the city here in Houston! We will soon be contacting our financial donors to announce the good news and to let them know options for their donations. You can read more about the garden's good news on page 9.

In the September 2012 *Westbury Crier*, there was also an article about the upcoming HISD bond and what it could mean to Westbury High school. The bond passed, Westbury was

allotted monies and a committee met with architects in August to start the planning process for the Westbury improvements. Under the heading of good news is the new principal, Jason Catchings, and Westbury High School becoming an AP campus. We've secured the garden, now we will work diligently to ensure that Westbury HS becomes the high school our community deserves.

It's been two years since we had a neighborhood general survey. I created a new survey using Survey Monkey and I hope many of you will go online and take a few minutes to answer less than 20 questions. The subjects are Metro 90A rail, garbage fees and area development. There will be a link on our Facebook page, website and here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/westbury2014>.

Good news like the garden and Westbury High deserves to be celebrated, so I hope many of you will attend our Annual meeting on

September 17. There will be lots of exciting giveaways and door prizes. We will have a chance to personally thank our city council members who helped secure the garden land.

Confirmed (at press time) to attend the WCC Annual Meeting are District K Council Member Larry Green, At-Large City Council Member Stephen Costello, and District G Council Member and Mayoral Candidate Oliver Pennington. Wanda Adams, our HISD school board trustee, will be attending along with Westbury High School's new principal so you can hear the exciting plans first hand. Updates on the Westbury Centerette, Westbury Square and the Metro 90A rail line will be on the agenda, too. And if all that isn't enough, you will meet your new Westbury Civic Club board for 2015!

I look forward to seeing you!
Becky Edmondson



WCC President, Becky Edmondson and her grandson, Connor, attended a Houston City Council meeting where Becky spoke in favor of the ordinance that will help save the Westbury Community Garden.



Board Notes— September 2014

- A motion by Robert Capps and Cindy Chapman to elect Libby Mondello to the vacant Director of Communications position was APPROVED.
- A motion by Robert Capps and Leslie Cross to elect Jeff Benavides to the vacant Director of Flood Control & Infrastructure position was APPROVED.
- A motion by Robert Capps and Stephanie Lester to elect Mark Knoblauch to the vacant Secretary position was APPROVED.
- Heath Campbell requested to be one of the Westbury 5 Section Directors which will soon be coming vacant.
- US 90A Rail update on commuter rail status. Brief background information was given regarding the project and the stalled Environmental Impact Study. Cindy Chapman and Becky Edmondson to speak to METRO board soon. Motion by Marcia Hartman and Stephanie Lester was APPROVED to: Support going forward with the 90A Rail Environmental Impact Study.
- Garage Sale Policy presented for discussion. Motion by Robert Capps and Eugene Sirls to formally adopt the policy was APPROVED. See page 6 for exact wording.
- Request for Contested Hearing and Opposition to Southern Crushed Concrete Proposed Air Quality Standard Permit #119443L001 presented. Motion by Robert Capps and Joe Niles was APPROVED to adopt a resolution opposing the application and requesting a contested hearing (see article on page 18 for wording).
- Thank you to Jackie Murray of Weichert Realtors for providing cookies and water.

Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock / Hours: Mon-Thurs 12PM—8PM; Fri 11AM-7PM
 Supervisor: Dan Reilly, Daniel.reilly@houstontx.gov or 713-726-7107

STRETCHING EXERCISE CLASS

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

MsBEEHAVEN QUILTERS

Tuesdays from 10AM to 2PM
 For more information, contact Janie at 713-721-5526

GAMES

Wednesdays from 10AM to 12PM
 For more information, contact Wally at 713-729-9310

PORTABLE PROJECTS

Thursdays from 10AM to Noon
 For more information, contact Genie at 713-470-7969

LINE DANCING

Mondays @ 12:30PM
 For more information, contact Dan at 713-726-7107

TOPS: TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

A Weight Loss Support Group, Tuesdays, 5:45-7PM
 Drop in to preview the program or call Dorothy at 713-723-4441 or Naomi at 713-988-2233

Dance or Exercise Instructor Needed

A volunteer is needed to teach a dance or exercise class on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday evenings between 6-8PM. Call Supervisor Dan Reilly at 713-726-7107 if you are interested.

Summer Enrichment

It was a great summer with approximately 40 kids attending. Thank you to the volunteers who make this a special program, see page XX.

After School Enrichment

Registration for the After School Enrichment Program for youth ages 6 through 13 is taking place. Call Dan Reilly at 713-726-7107 to register your children. The program begins on Tuesday, September 2. This program provides guided activities, including time to do homework, for children from schools near Chimney Rock Park until their parents can get them at 6PM.



RECYCLING NEWS

The recycling bins at the Chimney Rock Park have been removed.



Meyer Neighborhood Library

5005 W. Belfort
 Phone: 832-393-1840 * www.houstonlibrary.org
 Manager: Cory Eckert

September 2014 Events

Family Storytime
 Every Wednesday and Saturday at 10:30 AM

Adult Mystery Book Club
 Call the Meyer Library for info regarding the Adult book Club.

HOURS

Monday: Closed
 Tuesday: 10AM-6PM
 Wednesday: 10AM-6PM
 Thursday: 12PM-8PM
 Friday: 1PM-5PM
 Saturday: 10AM-5PM
 Sunday: Closed

Westbury Pool

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



POOL: September 1 (Labor Day) is last day for pool to be open! 1-6PM



Zumba Water Fitness Class: will continue thru the end of September. Tuesday and Thursday 9-10AM

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

What's Happening in Westbury

Events & Meetings Calendar September 2014

Mon 1	Labor Day—WCC Office Closed
Thurs 4	Westbury Meet & Eat at Teotihuacan @ 6PM 6579 W Bellfort Open to all Westbury residents
Mon 8	Westbury Community Garden Meeting 6:30PM Westbury Community Garden pavilion Dunlap @ Fonmeadow
Tues 9	Willow Waterhole Volunteer Planning Meeting 7PM The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow See page 22 for more details
Wed 10	Booth Spaces on Sale for Westbury Residents Only WCC Office open from 8AM to 2PM See page 7 for more information
Wed 10	WCC Office OPEN LATE for Booth Space White Elephant Sale Spaces — WESTBURY RESIDENTS ONLY 5-7PM See page 7 for more information
Sat 13	Willow Waterhole Workday 8AM-Noon The Gathering Place, 5310 S. Willow See page 22 for more details
Sat 13	Willow Waterhole Workday at Platou Center 9AM –1PM Platou Center, 11655 Chimney Rock See page 22 for more details
Mon 15	Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow See page 22 for more details
Wed 17	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting—8:30AM Salem Lutheran Church—5030 W Bellfort
Wed 17	WCC ANNUAL MEETING 7PM Meet & Greet 6PM Westbury Baptist Church SEE PAGE 1 for more info. Open to ALL Westbury residents
Sat 20	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 Bldg
Oct 1	Booth Spaces on Sale to Non-Westbury Residents WCC Office See page 7 for more information

Planning Calendar

October 7— National Night Out
October 25— White Elephant Sale
November 1— Rain Date for Sale



RECYCLING AND HEAVY TRASH CALENDAR



September 2014

Thurs 4	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Thurs 11	Heavy Trash- TREE WASTE ONLY ALL OF WESTBURY
Thurs 18	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury

October 2014

Thurs 2	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Thurs 9	Heavy Trash— JUNK WASTE ALL OF WESTBURY
Thurs 16	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Thurs 30	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury

Important Trash & Recycling Info

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

City of Houston Heavy Trash Schedule

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

Westbury Civic Club Policy: Garage Sales

For many years the Westbury Civic Club has had a policy that garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like are not permitted in Westbury. This long-standing policy has been announced in the monthly newsletter many times. In August, the board of directors of the Westbury Civic Club reviewed and approved a policy document regarding these sales to formalize the wording. (See policy in box to the right)

You will notice that the policy focuses on the deed restriction aspect of garage sales – nuisances (parking violations, traffic obstructions, and illegal advertising) and non-residential use of property. Many hundreds of homes in Westbury face major thoroughfares. This poses particular challenges related to parking and traffic if garage sales are conducted. In other Houston neighborhoods, it is sometimes common for homes on major thoroughfares to be used for ongoing sales; indeed, those highly visible homes are sometimes sought after by those who want to run a retail sales business from their home or yard. Over the years the WCC has shut down people selling Easter baskets, Mother's Day flowers, appliances, and other sales from highly visible Westbury yards. The City Legal Department has helped shut down certain garage sale businesses in Westbury.

Both the city and the state have rules which make it illegal to post signs on public right-of-way. These illegal signs are considered to be trash and visual blight. The city, the Brays Oaks Management District, and volunteers in Westbury all collect illegal signs. On Saturday, August 23, WCC volunteers collected more than 25 illegal signs related to garage or estate sales on one of the hottest days of the summer.

Another important consideration regarding garage sales is Crime Prevention. A garage sale allows passersby to know whether you have children and the approximate age of your children. If residents open their garage doors for shade during a garage sale, then they allow passersby to see what is stored in the garage: tools, exercise equipment, and other valuable items. An estate sale or garage sale allows visitors to leisurely examine your security systems and those of those of your neighbors.

Reserve your space for the Fall White Elephant Sale starting on September 10.

Don't violate the deed restrictions or be a nuisance to your neighbors. Consider taking part in the next White Elephant Sale on Saturday, October 25. Details are on the next page.



Westbury Civic Club, Inc.

WCC POLICY Garage Sales, Estate Sales, Yard Sales, and Moving Sales, etc.

Westbury Civic Club Policy: Garage Sales, Estate Sales, Yard Sales, Moving Sales

Purpose: The intent of this policy is to clearly convey the Westbury Civic Club restriction on garage sales, estate sales, yard sales or any other independent action of the kind.

Definition: Garage, Estate, Yard or Moving Sale: The sale of personal property in, at, or upon any residential lot or home. This includes, with limitation, sales of personal property from the garage, driveway, yard, patio or house area of such premises.

Policy: Garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like are not permitted in Westbury.

All sections of Westbury and Parkwest have deed restrictions that state "no noxious or offensive trade or activity shall be carried on upon any lot nor shall anything be done thereon which may be or become an annoyance or nuisance to the neighborhood". Garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like draw substantial traffic and contribute to: hindering the flow of traffic on major thoroughfares; impeding access to homes by emergency vehicles or residents due to parking congestion; parking violations on city streets or esplanades; parking violations from vehicles parked on front yards; and, parking violations from blocking public right-of-way on sidewalks. Furthermore, advertising materials for garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like contribute to: visual blight, trash along public streets, and violations of the city sign ordinance. The Westbury Civic Club considers garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like to be "an annoyance or nuisance to the neighborhood".

All sections of Westbury and Parkwest have deed restrictions that state the lots are to be used for single family or family residential purposes. The Westbury Civic Club considers garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like to be commercial use of residential property.

Approved by the Westbury Civic Club Board, August 20, 2014

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Fall White Elephant Sale: October 25

Do You Need to Have a Garage Sale?

Westbury White Elephant Community Garage Sale is October 25

The Westbury Civic Club (WCC) provides fall and spring community garage sale events to our members. The Fall White Elephant Sale will be on Saturday, October 25, from 8AM to Noon at Westbury United Methodist Church. The rain date is November 1.

Booth space will go on sale at 8AM on Wednesday, September 10, for individual Westbury residents ONLY*.

The WCC office will be open early at 8AM on September 10 only and close at 2PM. **The office will also be open from 5-7PM on September 10 for booth space purchase.** Booths may be purchased during normal office hours of 9:30AM to 2:30PM starting on September 11.

You must be a paid current member of the Westbury Civic Club to purchase a booth. This means you must have paid your 2014 WCC membership dues of \$40. If you have not paid your 2014 dues, you may do so at the same time

that you purchase your booth space. The booth price for individual Westbury residents will be \$20-\$25. Booths will go on sale to non-residents and non-profit organizations on October 10 if space permits on a first come, first serve basis. The booth price for non-residents and groups is \$60-65.

The Westbury White Elephant Sale allows residents the opportunity to sell unwanted household items at a highly visible central location with security provided. **The WCC provides location, security, bathrooms and publicity for the sale. The Civic Club does NOT provide tables, chairs or shade.** Garage, Estate, yard, moving sales, etc. are not permitted at Westbury residences. See the previous page for the Westbury Garage Sale Policy.

So why not have fun, make money, be safe and be a good neighbor.

Plan on having a booth at the Westbury White Elephant Sale!

**Due to limited space and increased interest by homeowners, only individual homeowners may purchase booth space in September. Non-residents and ALL non-profit organizations and groups (including Westbury resident run) must wait until October 10. Violators of this policy may not be allowed to participate in the current and/or future White Elephant Sales. All non-profit organizations and groups must register under their organization name. No individual may purchase a booth for a group or organization unless doing so under that organization's name.*



IMPORTANT DATES

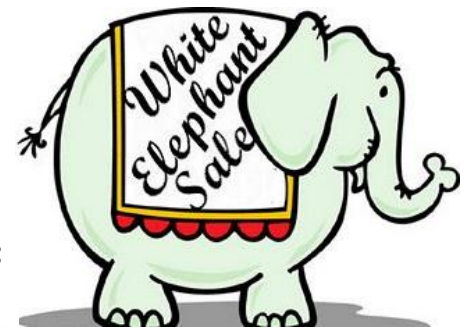
September 10 —Booths go on sale for individual Westbury residents. **WCC office open early at 8AM (til 2PM) and open late from 5-7PM**

September 11-October 23— Booths on sale during normal office hours 9:30AM-2:30PM

Oct. 10—Booths on sale for non-residents and non-profit organization and groups

Oct. 25—White Elephant Sale

Nov. 1—Rain Date



BROUGHT
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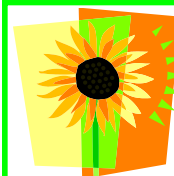


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Westbury Resident

2014 National Night Out: October 7

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Tuesday, October 7, is National Night Out (NNO). It's the perfect time to get together and meet your neighbors.

National Night Out is a national event designed to celebrate neighbors and to learn more about safe neighborhoods. We encourage all residents to organize block parties or similar 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 7.

Please register your party with the WCC Office by September 18 at westburycc@sbcglobal.net or call 713-723-5437 to let us know the time and location of your NNO event. You may also register your party at the Westbury Annual Meeting on September 17. 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. We will have WCC promo items available for the first 10 parties that register with the WCC Office.

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 WCC 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.



National Night Out handouts and prizes are sponsored by:



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Westbury Community Garden News

Westbury Community Garden SAVED!

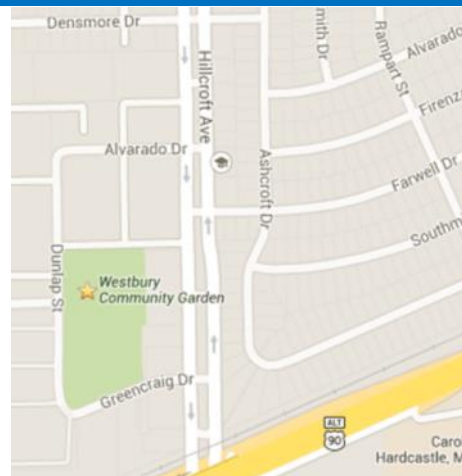
The Westbury Civic Club is very excited and proud to announce that the Westbury Community Garden has been saved. After two years of uncertainty, the garden, its gardeners and the community can now breathe a sigh of relief. Our District K Councilmember Larry Green called it "a triumphant victory for the Westbury Community and District K". Our thanks go out to all those who gave of their time, their talent and their money to ensure the continuation of this very important community asset.

The September 2012 *Westbury Crier* was full of information about the impending crisis with the Houston Housing Authority (HHA) planning to build a 250 unit low income housing complex. In July of 2014, the HHA board voted that the seven acre tract of land "could be put to better use for the public benefit of the community by a transfer to the City of Houston." Later in the same month, Houston City Council approved an ordinance to create a fund to be used for the Houston Housing Authority and the City of Houston to exchange and transfer real property between them.

Upon conveyance of the property, the purchase price that would normally be paid at the closing will instead be credited to a separate credit account established at the City. The Westbury Community Garden parcel is the first transaction. There are still a few more steps involved as the Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD) will lease the property from the city and then the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) will enter into a long term agreement with the BOMD to manage the property and operate the garden.

Council Member Green worked diligently on our behalf. For the past several months, that work was behind the scenes with the City's Economic Development Office and the Parks and Recreation Department on a strategy regarding the acquisition of the land. In addition to Larry Green, we thank all the city council members (esp. Christie, Costello and Bradford) who supported us, State Rep. Borris Miles, Congressman Al Green; David Hawes of the Brays Oaks Management District, the Houston Parks Board, Leadership Houston, Urban Harvest and last but not least Mayor Parker and her staff. Mayor Parker's support of neighborhood initiatives, sustainability and green spaces was crucial.

Good news like this deserves to be celebrated, so we are planning a Celebration of Thanks this fall. In the spring of 2015 we will celebrate the 5th birthday of the Westbury Community Garden. We deeply appreciate the optimism and good cheer displayed by our gardeners and volunteers while the future of the garden site was in discussions. They continued to plant crops, nurture orchards, and to share their knowledge with others. They never gave up hope that the garden would be saved, because they believed that it was worthy of being saved. We will soon be contacting our financial donors to announce the good news and to let them know options for their donations.



WHERE IS THE GARDEN?

The Westbury Community Garden is located at 12581 Dunlap near Hillcroft and South Main (US 90A) in zip code 77035. The intersection of GreenCraig and Hillcroft is the intersection closest to the railroad tracks at South Main.

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



Buy Fresh Food at the Westbury Community Garden

A farm stand run by Plant It Forward Farms is open at the garden on **Saturdays from 9AM to 5PM and Sundays 10AM to 6PM.**

A farm share program is also available with pick up at the Westbury Community Garden.

Visit www.plant-it-forward.org for more information.



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Westbury Area News

Road Work In Westbury 1, 2 & 3

Certain streets in Westbury sections 1, 2 and 3 were resurfaced by the City of Houston this summer. The Westbury Civic Club has been in constant talks with the department heads that are overseeing the project. Due to the asphalt being laid directly into the storm drains, all storm drains on the streets that had an asphalt overlay replaced will be cleaned out by the City.

Overlay is not designed to improve or correct drainage issues; it is used to preserve and prolong the life of the road base and provide a smoother riding surface.

New Water Line Installation on Oasis

A new water supply line is being installed on the west side of Oasis Drive replacing the aging water line on the east side. The work is expected to be finished by December. City crews will replace any sidewalks, driveway aprons, or yards that are damaged by the work.

This water line replacement project has long been needed on this street. Over 15 breaks occurred along this line in the past several years, including several major breaks. One of these breaks was pictured on the front page of the Houston Chronicle recently.



2015 Westbury Civic Club Board Nominees

Listed below are the positions and nominees for the 2015 Westbury Civic Club Board. According to the By-laws of the Westbury Civic Club, no election is needed since all the positions are uncontested. The following positions are vacant and have no nominees; Treasurer, Section Directors for Westbury 1, Westbury 4 and Parkwest 2. If you are interested in any of these openings, please attend a board meeting to find out more or call the WCC office at 713-723-5437.

Position	Board Member
President	Becky Edmondson
Vice President	Marcia Hartman
Secretary	Mark Knoblauch
Treasurer	***VACANT***
Communications	Libby Mondello
Community Relations	Cindy Chapman
Deed Restrictions	Jennifer Edmondson
Flood Control & Infrastructure	Jeff Benavides
Greenspace Beautification	Carlos Mata
Membership	Kate Wilson
Security	Leslee Cross
Volunteer Coordinator	Stephanie Lester
Westbury 1	***VACANT***
Westbury 2	Rocio Lara
Westbury 3	Robert Montgomery
Westbury 3	Charlsey Porcorello
Westbury 4	Eugene Sirls
Westbury 4	***VACANT***
Westbury 5	Virginia Livingston
Westbury 5	Heath Campbell
Westbury South	Robert Capps
Parkwest 1	William Grimsinger
Parkwest 2	***VACANT***
Parkwest 3	Joe Niles

Thank you to the exiting 2014 WCC Board Members! We appreciate everything you have done for Westbury!

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Crime/Security

Crime/Security Update by WCC

Sergeant Hernandez of the Westbury Area Patrol Constable program reported at the August WCC Board meeting that crime was down in Westbury. According to Sgt. Hernandez, there had been no reported break-in/burglaries in the previous several weeks.

The Westbury Civic Club would like to remind everyone that Westbury is the 2nd largest neighborhood in Houston with over 5,000 single family homes and approximately 20,000 residents. Given these numbers and the fact that we live among hundreds of apartments and within the City of Houston, our crime is relatively low.

Social media sites such as NextDoor.com can help fight crime but please be aware that having all this information readily available makes it seem as though crime is happening all the time everywhere. There is no crime spree occurring in Westbury at this time. If there is a crime spree, then the Westbury Civic Club will notify residents via the *Westbury Crier*, WCC website and/or Westbury Houston Facebook page.

The Westbury Civic Club never publicizes the exact addresses of crimes, only the block number. This reporting is done to notify neighbors of crime on surrounding streets.

Thank You BOMD!

The August 2014 service report for the Brays Oaks Management District indicates that BOMD litter abatement crew collected trash along 138 miles of city right-of-way during July. During this time, they filled 79 bags of trash and collected 243 illegally posted "bandit signs". Since the beginning of the year they have collected more than 600 bags of trash and almost 2,000 bandit signs.

We appreciate the efforts of BOMD to help keep Westbury (and the rest of the district) clean and beautiful.

Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37* 30 days July 22, 2014

	Single-Family Home	Apt/Condo	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	12	4	3	0	19
Theft	6	7	2	0	15
Auto Theft	3	4	2	0	9
Robbery	4	1	1	0	6
Assault	1	2	0	0	3
Rape	0	2	0	0	2
Murder	0	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	28	21	8	0	55

*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 7/22/14)



Block #	Street	Crime
5700	Alvarado Dr x 2	Burglary
12100	Ashcroft	Robbery
10700	Braewick	Burglary
11600	Braewick	Burglary
12300	Braewick	Auto Theft
5900	Claridge	Burglary
11200	Endicott Ln	Burglary
5700	Ettrick	Burglary
5800	Firenza	Robbery
5700	Fontenelle x2	Theft
5700	Greencraig	Assault
12000	Hillcroft	Auto Theft
12300	Hillcroft x2	Burglary
5100	Kingfisher	Theft
5800	Ludington	Burglary
5700	Portal	Burglary
5600	Warm Springs	Theft
5600	W. Airport	Burglary
5600	W. Bellfort	Theft
5900	W. Bellfort x2	Burglary

Westbury Area Patrol, Constables
281-463-6666

Westbury HPD Storefront
713-726-7126

HPD Non-Emergency
713-884-3131

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Regular & Tankless

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Water Lines

Gas Lines

Drain Cleaning

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Westbury Area News

NEXTDOOR.COM Policy

Please remember that the Westbury Civic Club does NOT monitor Nextdoor.com nor can it receive or respond to messages from Nextdoor.com. Please report all problems, questions or concerns directly to the Civic Club. The WCC can be reached at westburycc@sbcglobal.net, on Facebook (Westbury Houston), www.westburycrier.com, or at 713-723-5437. The WCC Office is located at 5322 W. Bellfort #107.

Westbury Meet & Eat

Come out to Teotihuacan Mexican Restaurant at 6579 W. Bellfort every 1st Thursday of the month to meet Westbury residents. This event is open to anyone who lives in Westbury.
September Meet & Eat: Thurs, Sept 4 @ 6PM
October Meet & Eat: Thurs, Oct 2 @ 6PM

Westbury Trading Group - Facebook

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

Links for Lost & Found Pets

Nextdoor Westbury - www.nextdoor.com
 Westbury Lost and Found Pets Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/westburyhoustontexas>
 CARE- Contact at westburycare@gmail.com (Compassionate Animal Rescue Efforts is located in Westbury) or at www.westburycare.com

Composer John Bell at WUMC, Sept 20-21

Westbury United Methodist Church will host John Bell, the well-known composer and song enlivener of the Iona Community in Scotland. Mr. Bell will facilitate several events during the weekend of Sept. 20 and 21, around the theme, The Divine Option for Diversity.

Saturday, Sept. 20, from 2 to 4:30PM— Mr. Bell will lead a seminar to trace how the psalms of the Old Testament provide a biblical springboard for diversity of text, sentiment and musical setting. Space limited, must register.

Saturday, Sept. 20 from 7 to 9PM— Banquet at which Mr. Bell will speak on the different ways music can be used in worship. \$10 per person.

Sunday, Sept 21, 4-6PM—Bell will lead a community-wide song festival called "Sing the World Upside Down," featuring music from the global church. Sunday's events are free and open to the public.

All events, unless otherwise stated are free and open to the public. For more information, contact WUMC at 713-723-0175.

The Trebuchet Players will perform *Waiting for Othello and Desdemona* at the Company OnStage from September 5-20.

Fridays and Saturdays at 8PM

Sunday, September 14 at 3PM

Sunday, September 18 at 8PM

Admission by donation- \$10 minimum donation
Tickets available by calling 318-423-0281 or emailing tyrrell@trebuchetplayers.org

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2014 Dues/Assessments

Mission of the WCC

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

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

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



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2014 Westbury Civic Club Dues		*Please send this form in with your payment																													
Name(s) _____																															
Address _____																															
Home Phone _____		Work _____ Cell _____																													
E-mail _____																															
<p>Make checks payable to: Westbury Civic Club, Inc.</p> <p>Mail to: P.O. Box 975182 Dallas, TX 75397-5182</p> <p>Online payment: paypal.com—Send Money to westburyccl@sbcglobal.net Make sure to include your address or account number</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Westbury Civic Club Membership</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: right;">\$40</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greenspace Beautification</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$25</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Westbury Area Patrol</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$230</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Subtotal</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$295</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Additional Contributions:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Westbury Civic Club</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greenspace Beautification</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Westbury Area Patrol</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Westbury HPD Storefront</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$</td> </tr> </table>	Westbury Civic Club Membership	\$40	\$	Greenspace Beautification	\$25	\$	Westbury Area Patrol	\$230	\$	Subtotal	\$295	\$	Additional Contributions:			Westbury Civic Club		\$	Greenspace Beautification		\$	Westbury Area Patrol		\$	Westbury HPD Storefront		\$	Total		\$
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<p>Sending multiple payments? Circle your payment choice</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2 payment of \$147.50</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">3 payments of 98.34</p> <p>**Call the office for more payment options or questions</p>																															

Benefits of Paying Your Dues

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

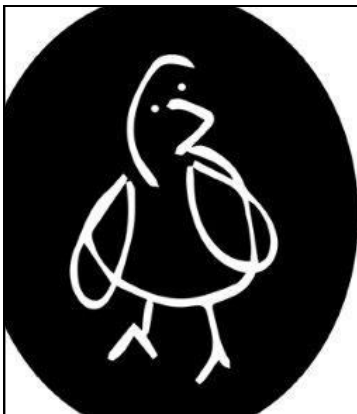
For a more detailed explanation, check out the January 2014 *Westbury Crier* available online at westburycrier.com.

ATTENTION: PARKWEST 1&2

Homes purchased in Parkwest 1 after Jan. 1, 1993 and Parkwest 2 after Jan 1, 1994 have mandatory assessments. The 2014 Assessment is \$227. All assessments were due by February 1, 2014 unless you have an active payment plan with the Westbury Civic Club. Late statements will be mailed by October. If you are interested in a payment plan, please call 713-723-5437.

Remodeling or Adding On? Submit Plans to WCC Now

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



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Don't Forget Austin Tice

A prayer vigil was held at St Thomas More Church on August 19 for the release of Austin Tice and for Peace in Syria. The Tice family lives in Westbury. **Austin grew up in Westbury with his brothers and sisters and loved our big, diverse neighborhood. He set a state record swimming with Westbury Swim Club with Theresa Pollard as his coach. He became an Eagle scout.** The family has a website: www.austinticefamily.com and the following article is from his parents, Marc and Debbie Tice on August 14.



Seven Hundred Thirty Days of Silence

By Marc & Debbie Tice, parents of Austin Tice and Westbury residents

It has been two years since our son, freelance journalist Austin Tice, was taken captive near Damascus, Syria where he was reporting for McClatchy News, the Washington Post, CBS and others. We have had no contact from Austin or his captors; we still do not know where he is or who is holding him.

Austin put his education at Georgetown Law School on hold, first to fulfill his sense of duty to serve his country, and again to pursue his calling as a journalist. Austin is proud to be the eldest brother, an uncle, an Eagle Scout, a Georgetown University graduate, a Marine Corps veteran, and a widely published freelancer. He respects loyalty, discipline, ambition, courage, and commitment. With his absence, a huge chunk of our life is missing. As his parents, we cannot give ourselves fully to the present because we remain suspended in the day Austin went missing, a day which is now 17,520 hours long.

As we relentlessly pray and work for Austin, we are continually unsettled by disturbing questions about his welfare. What does he eat? Does he see the sky? Is he alone? What challenges is he facing day-to-day? Does he know we are looking for him? How does he mark the time; does he know two years have

passed? In those two years, along with the significant dates on the calendar and the once-in-a-lifetime events dampened by Austin's absence, there are also the small daily moments - joys, challenges, blunders and blessings – which have not been shared and cannot be relived.

We do not want Austin to be forgotten. We fervently pray for him. We continue to do everything we think of to bring our son safely home. We sincerely appreciate each person who has helped and supported us. Words cannot fully express the depth of our gratitude for every bit of every kind of help we have received. Please keep thinking of Austin, please keep searching, and please keep praying for his well-being and safe return.

To those holding Austin, we ask you to treat our son well and return him to us safely and soon. Austin is a man of good character, and his effort to tell the world about what is happening in Syria – from all perspectives – is honorable. We will not give up; we want to see our son safely home. May it be soon, according to God's will.



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Westbury "Greenspace" News

Westbury Wins Multiple Keep Houston Beautiful Awards

Keep Houston Beautiful (KHB) encourages community partners and volunteers to create, enhance and maintain the unique beauty and livability of Houston. The Mayor's Proud Partners Luncheon provides KHB "an opportunity to recognize outstanding work by local organizations and individuals who strive to improve Houston's landscape through environmental and beautification projects".

The Westbury Civic Club won our first Mayor's Proud Partner award in 1994. Westbury area volunteers or organizations have now won awards in eight of the last 10 years. This year is the 35th anniversary of Keep Houston Beautiful and is also a banner year for Westbury projects.

FOUR Westbury area projects have won recognition from KHB this year!

1. The Prairie Plant Rescue Project at Willow Waterhole has won a prestigious Mayor's Proud Partner award. The collaborative efforts to rescue native prairie plants from a construction area at Willow Waterhole saved thousands of plants which will be replanted elsewhere at Willow Waterhole.

2. Marcia Hartman has won a Certificate of Recognition. As president of the Westbury Community Garden this past year, Marcia Hartman has overseen several projects that have created an even greater sense of community while beautifying the full 7 acres. Marcia's quiet, thoughtful leadership coupled with her organizational skills brought 4 exciting projects to fruition. Storage sheds were transformed by a WHS art project. A handicapped-accessible garden bed was created. A tree farm was started. Two acres are now under cultivation by refugee farmers who were trained by Plant it Forward. Marcia shares this award with all the hardworking gardeners of the Westbury Community garden.

3. Keep Westbury Beautiful Day at Hager Park has won a Certificate of Recognition. On the first Saturday in April, 50 volunteers planted and mulched 50 new trees in Hager Park and picked up bags of trash. This was a wonderful event organized for the annual *Keep Westbury Beautiful Day* and timed to coincide with the *Keep District K Beautiful Day* and *Keep Houston Beautiful Day*. The Westbury Civic Club (WCC) coordinated the project from advertising, picking up the trees and supplies, to paying for refreshments for the volunteers. The WCC will also pay for watering the trees for the next two years through donations to the Greenspace fund at the WCC. Many thanks to all the volunteers, especially our new Director of Volunteers, Stephanie Lester.

4. The Friends of Chimney Rock Park has won a Certificate of Recognition. They organized and facilitated a Nature Study Program at the Platou Community Center. Every Tuesday from June to August, 40 children ages 6 to 13 participated. Activities included a nature hike along the Willow Waterhole Bayou to the Bayou Nature Trail, the study of snakes, birds, Monarch butterflies, solitary bees, and an introduction to Willow Waterhole Bayou as an important watershed. Benefit to the community: 40 children will carry their wonder and excitement about what they learned back to their families, and hopefully into their future lives.

September

Yard of the Month

Westbury 1
Alison & Max
5130 Kingfisher

Westbury South
Westbury Resident
5727 Firenza

Westbury 2
Robert Kidd
10622 Burdine

Parkwest 1
Molly & Kenneth Kent
5627 Briarbend

Westbury 3
Mary Koury
5831 Arboles

Parkwest 2
Kim & John Jagger
5739 Creekbend

Westbury 4
Bob & Bonnie Exner
6011 Effingham

Parkwest 3
Juanita & Frank Green
11603 Dunalp

Westbury 5
Chuck & Leigh Smith
11007 Renwick

Congratulations to all our winners for September Yard of the Month. The Yard of the Month program will take a short hiatus in November but will be back for holiday judging in December. Look for future Criers for more information.
Thank you to all our Yard of the Month judges!

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City of Houston Partnerships

Houston General Plan

The City of Houston kicked off the process to create a "General Plan for Houston's Future" on July 31 at the United Way. Several hundred people were on hand to hear the vision intended for this historic, initial General Plan.

Mayor Annise Parker addressed the crowd and City Planning Director Patrick Walsh described the process. He encouraged everyone in attendance to get involved. It's estimated that one million people will move to Houston in the next 20 years and a total of 3.5 million people will move into the Greater Houston region. The Houston General Plan that will help guide future decision-making on everything from infrastructure and traffic to neighborhood preservation and access to health care.

Becky Edmondson, co-president of the Westbury Super Neighborhood, attended as a Stakeholder. We will keep you informed as the process continues.

Process: The Planning and Development Department will lead the effort to create a general plan, overseen by the Planning Commission, City Council and the Mayor's office. The Planning Department will enlist input from the City's various community sectors including representatives from

businesses, neighborhoods, arts and culture, major institutions and various governing agencies.

The General Planning process will run through the spring of 2015. During this time, the public, professional organizations, community groups and public agencies will have an opportunity to provide input on how the City should develop. There will be opportunities for the public to provide input throughout the project via the project web site and at key milestones.

Once complete, the General Plan will provide for a collective Vision Statement that represents the community's view of its future. It will clearly articulate goals, priorities, and policies upon which to make decisions. The General Plan will be housed online as an interactive web site allowing it to be accessible to all.



September is National Preparedness Month

For National Preparedness Month, the City of Houston is providing free informational kits on preparedness which will be available to Westbury residents at the September Annual Meeting on September 17. Thank you to a Westbury resident for coordinating this effort with the Mayor's Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security. Go to www.ready.gov/september for a list of events and more information.

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- Average Days on Market: 78 days on market
- Selling vs. Listing Price: -5% selling below asking price
- Listing and Sold Prices: median sold price \$189,500
- Number of Homes for Sale: -17% homes for sale decreased

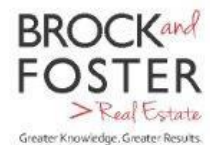
Have a Question? Get in touch. It's happy to help. Email me or call 713-272-2000

ID	Address	Price	Days on Market	Status
1	2744 Quince Dr 7 beds, 2 baths, 1022 sq. ft. View Details Show On Map	\$249,000 \$197,757	80 days	SOLD
2	5716 Geneva Dr 4 beds, 2 baths, 1088 sq. ft. View Details Show On Map	\$264,000 \$122,125	32 days	SOLD
3	3887 Kensington St 3 beds, 2 baths, 1058 sq. ft. View Details Show On Map	\$172,000 \$90,127	219 days	SOLD
4	142 E. 13th St. 1 bed, 1 bath, 1000 sq. ft.	\$160,000 \$47,157	82 days	FOR SALE
5	142 E. 13th St. 1 bed, 1 bath, 1000 sq. ft.	\$160,000 \$102,157	71 days	FOR SALE
6	142 E. 13th St. 1 bed, 1 bath, 1000 sq. ft.	\$177,000 \$54,157	82 days	SOLD

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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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WAIC / SN #37/ Update on Southern Crushed Concrete

WAIC: Westbury Area Improvement Corporation

The nonprofit WAIC monthly meeting was held on August 20, 2014.

Southern Crushed Concrete

Environmental Permit Application- The WAIC board APPROVED the resolution shown in the box. Letters will be sent to the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality.

US90A Rail Line – The board APPROVED a motion to “Support going forward with a US90A rail line Environmental Impact Study”. The WAIC will send reps to an upcoming METRO board meeting.

Westbury Community Garden – The WAIC will soon be the garden operator instead of the WCC. A motion was APPROVED to purchase a general liability insurance policy. The Fundraising Committee met to discuss issues related to the funds which had been raised to acquire the property.

Parker Elementary – Principal Lori Frodine brought a site plan and discussed the replat request. A variance hearing will be held on Sept 4.

Westbury High School – New Principal Jason Catchings gave an update on WHS conditions. The 9th graders are moving to the main building and the seniors will be in the temporaries. A meeting was held to interview architects for the new school construction. The WAIC board is concerned that HISD is waffling on its promises in 2012 to build a regional athletic facility at WHS.

“Westbury Centerette” Property Replat – The owner of the vacant buildings at the “Westbury Centerette” property near Chimney Rock and West Bellfort submitted a replat request. After obtaining a copy of the proposed site plan, several issues of concern were identified. A 2-week deferral of the replat request was granted so that concerns could be discussed with the property owner.

RESOLUTION Westbury Super Neighborhood #37 (approved on August 20, 2014)

“After discussion and deliberation regarding the pending environmental permit application #119443L001 by Southern Crushed Concrete for its site located in the Westbury area and in the Westbury Super Neighborhood, we believe that the proposed plant operation will have significant negative impact on the health, safety, and well-being of residents, students, and the general public in the Westbury area. **We oppose the permit application and request a contested hearing.**”

**STAY UP TO DATE ON
THE CURRENT STATUS OF
THE TCEQ APPLICATION
BY SOUTHERN CRUSHED
CONCRETE ON
WESTBURY HOUSTON
FACEBOOK PAGE OR AT
WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM**

TCEQ Public Meeting for Southern Crushed Concrete Air Permit Application

Southern Crushed Concrete applied for a permit through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to allow concrete batching at its Gasmer location. State Representative Borris Miles facilitated a community meeting by the TCEQ last month at Westbury High School.

Over 200 Westbury area residents attended the TCEQ public hearing in which the majority in attendance were in opposition to the permit. Concerns expressed at the public hearing focused on the concrete dust and particulate matter from the batching plant that will negatively affect the public health of nearby residents and possible environmental impacts of dust and water runoff into the adjoining Willow Waterhole.

The public comment deadline was August 25. At press time, the outcome of the request for a contested hearing is unknown. Please stay tuned to our Facebook page *Westbury Houston*, or our website, www.westburycrier.com for up to date news on the permit process. We will have an update in the next *Crier*.



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Summer Enrichment Program at Platou Community Center

Nature and Art Summer Enrichment Program

The Friends of Chimney Rock Park and members of the Willow Waterhole Park Conservancy teamed up for a second year to present a Nature Study Program to the 40 children ages 6 to 13 enrolled in the Houston Parks Department Summer Enrichment Program at the Platou Community Center.

Every week on Tuesday, nature activities were planned. Activities included a nature hike along the bayou to the Bayou Nature Trail, the study of solitary bees, snakes, birds, Monarch butterflies, and the bayou as a watershed. Included, too, was an appearance by the Ozone Theater where the students learned about the Air Quality Index and when it is not good to be outside. Edith Smith and Virginia Livingston, friends, naturalists, and longtime science teachers, lined up the speakers.

Interrupting the Nature Study Program was Art Week led by Westbury resident and art teacher, Gigi Spencer. For two hours each day, the children worked on art projects such as making *papier mache* figures, weaving on old cd disks, drawing, painting with water colors, and making clay medallions to wear. Art Week was funded by a \$500 ExxonMobil Volunteer Grant via the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation.



These two programs succeeded because of the volunteers from Westbury who gave their time and skills to be with the children for nature study and arts. They are Diana Lovelady, Karen Schubert, Janie and Russell Schexnayder, Evan Byrd, Joy and Gigi Spencer, Genie Mitchell, Lynn Dahlberg, Allen and Hazel Potvin, Donna Robert, Edith Smith, Emily and Elizabeth Smith, and Virginia and Taylor Livingston. Invited speakers were: Ozone Theater (Air Alliance Houston), HISD Biology teacher Gina Distledorf, Vicki Vrobles from the Audubon Society and her birds, and Dr. Bill Dupre, U of H professor of Geology, who helped the children understand the watershed process in the Westbury area.

Without the support of the excellent staff at Platou Community Center, these programs would not have happened. We salute Supervisor Dan Reilly, Recreation Assistant Nelson Ayala, Summer Interns Destiny McFarlin and Miranda Babin, and Custodian Luisa Jimenez.

In addition to the Tuesday Science and Art Week, the Summer Enrichment Program was packed with activities for the 40+ children attending. Children had lessons in nutrition and healthy life style from TX A&M. Tennis lessons were available four days a week. Houston Public Library visited with their mobile library and did a program on Legos.

Field trips included sports activities like track meets and street Olympics and tournaments at other city and county parks. There were two trips to indoor amusement centers in Pasadena. Younger children went to see **Shrek 4** and older children got to see **How to Train Your Dragon 2**. Fridays were "Water Day" with multiple trips to Marian Park for the splash features and the Windsor Village pool.

Based on input from the youth, Thursdays were always devoted to parties at the center. The students did a show and tell event, made tie dye T-shirts, had a glow in the dark dance party, a line dance party, a water balloon party, and finished off the summer with a pizza and dance party. All in all the kids had a great summer!

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Westbury High School News & Happenings

A special thank you from Westbury High School Students

"The Westbury High School band was invited to go to Canton, Ohio to perform in the NFL Football Hall of Fame parade. The NFL parade featured a lot of different bands and we got a preview of their music before the parade began. The parade went smoothly and the enthusiasm from the crowd kept us pushing ourselves not to disappoint anyone and we played our heart out. When we got near the end, we got the chance to meet Mr. Michael Strahan. He was thrilled to receive his old Westbury jersey with his number and our signatures was on it. "Now this is something I don't have", he stated. Moments like these truly warm my heart and make me proud of what we did. We went to the Hall of Fame later on in the day. As we made our way back to the dorm to pack, the end of the trip was arriving and the 30 hour trip back home was too. Then that moment came when we were finally in Houston but it was bittersweet knowing that was my last performance with my high school band. This trip was an amazing experience; words cannot truly explain how much fun it was. Thank you to all the people who supported us with donations and supported us through our goal in general. A special thank you to all the chaperones, band moms, and Mr. Washington for making this trip a fantastic last band memory!!"

Thank you, *Kajani Chandrarasakumar*

"I'm thankful for this trip Mr. Washington has allowed us to go on. It was an amazing experience to travel this far from home & to meet Mr. Strahan. I would love to relive this moment again."

Larry Buchanan



WHS - New Emphasis in Advanced Placement (AP) Classes

Westbury High School has been named the district's first school to focus heavily on AP curriculum. Students in all grade levels will be urged to enroll in at least one pre-AP or AP course. Students who receive a 3 or higher grade on AP course exams are eligible to receive college credit. At the ninth-grade level, students may now enroll in two pre-AP courses. Tenth-graders may enroll in pre-AP classes as well as an AP class. Students in grades 11-12 may enroll in two AP courses.

PAY ATTENTION TO SCHOOL ZONES AND STUDENTS WALKING TO AND FROM SCHOOL. THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR HAS STARTED. REMEMBER NO CELL PHONE USAGE IN SCHOOL ZONES. STOP FOR BUSES.



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Westbury Area School News & Happenings

RePlat for Parker Elementary Land

The Houston Independent School District has made a request to replat the site where Parker Elementary is situated. Currently the school is located on two tracts of land at the intersection of Willowbend and Atwell: one is about 6 acres and the other is about 2.3 acres. See drawing below.

The proposal is to replat all of tract BB and part of AA with a purpose to combine the two tracts to create a single tract reserved for school and related purposes called "HISD Parker Elementary". Additionally, the replat proposal asks to reduce the "Building Line" along Willowbend from the existing 35 feet to 25 feet.

The city will send written notice to all owners of property within 250 feet of the boundary line of the plat and all parcels along or across any street or roadway. The hearing will be held on Sept 4 at 2:30 PM at the City Council Chamber, City Hall Annex. Contact the city Planning Department at 713.837.7701 for additional information.



BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

Westbury High School hosted a back to school bash on Aug 21. Hundreds of students and their parents enjoyed visiting different tables set up to highlight Westbury clubs and extracurricular activities. On hand from the community were representatives from the Westbury Civic Club, the Friends of WHS Foundation and Congressman Al Green's office. WCC President Becky Edmondson met the new WHS mascot.



Al Green Health Fair

Congressman Al Green again hosted his annual Back to School Health Fair "Green Light to Healthy Living" at Westbury High School on August 23. Children received school immunizations and had their vision examined. The children in the audience were thrilled as drawings were held for many prizes – including two bicycles. Numerous health agencies participated in the event and handed out giveaways like pencils, pens, dental floss, toothbrushes, candy, and informational brochures. Free assistance was provided with Medicaid or CHIP applications, renewals, and re-certifications.



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Willow Waterhole News and Events

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

Volunteer Planning Meeting: September 9

Master plan meeting for fall work day events

Meeting specifics: September 9, 7PM at The Gathering Place, 5310 S. Willow

Workday at the Park, September 13

The primary project will be mulching trees. Small teams will start removing vines and invasive species. A large number of trees have died in recent years and mulching will help preserve the remaining trees.

Workday Specifics: September 13, 8AM—Noon. Sign in at The Gathering Place 5310 South Willow Drive. Restrooms, cool down breaks, snacks and water will be provided. A signed waiver will be required to participate and is available at www.wwgc.org. Certificates of volunteer service will be available.

Wildflower Seed Ball Project, September 13

Come to the Platou Center anytime from 9AM-1PM to help make seed balls. Making wildflower seed balls is an educational and fun project for young children that will help provide color on the slopes at Willow Waterhole as well as improving the wildlife habitat and attract more birds.

Workday Specifics: September 13, 9AM-1PM, Platou Community Center at 11655 Chimney Rock. Fruit, water, and snacks will be available. A signed waiver will be required to participate and is available on the WWGC's website at www.wwgc.org. Certificates of volunteer service will be available.

Brays Bayou Association Meeting, September 15

Westbury resident, Russell Schnexnyder, will speak regarding the future plans of the Willow Waterhole.

Meeting Specifics: September 15, 7:30PM, The Gathering Place, 5310 S. Willow

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE EVENTS AND MORE, CHECK OUT WWW.WWGC.ORG

Volunteers Needed: Willow Waterhole

Beginning in September 2014, the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy (WWGC) will start to hold regularly scheduled volunteer workdays on the second Saturday monthly to help the Waterhole achieve signature park status by improving the native vegetation and wildlife habitat of the park.

There will be an planning meeting at The Gathering Place on Tuesday, September 9, at 7 PM, to organize the effort. If you would like to be on one of the committees to help organize projects and/or be a team leader on the workdays, please attend.

The Willow Waterhole has been awarded a \$400,000 grant. A portion of the funding will be allocated for vegetation and wildlife habitat improvement projects. The Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy hopes to maximize the grant by utilizing volunteers and workdays. Volunteers this past spring rescued over 3000 rare native prairie plants.

The Levitt Pavilion at Willow Waterhole is scheduled to open in 2017 providing fifty free live concerts by nationally known artists. These workdays will help ensure that the park is ready for its prime time debut.

For volunteer opportunities, see the green box of the left for a list of meetings and workdays.



NEW SIGNS INSTALLED

Multiple new signs aimed at helping people find the Willow Waterhole Park have been installed along Chimney Rock, Gasmer, and S. Post Oak for the willow Waterhole.



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Cool Down With the Constables



The Westbury Civic Club held its very first Cool Down with the Constables ice cream social on Saturday, August 16, at Westbury Baptist Church. Over 65 Westbury residents attended a very informative presentation by our own Westbury Area Patrol Sergeant Hernandez and Harris County Pct. 5 Lt. Hutter. Residents learned child safety tips and picked up free child ID kits and t-shirts from the Harris County Pct. 5 Constables' office. The Westbury Civic Club handed out free WCC cups and magnets and had fun door prizes for many kids!

A huge thank you goes to WCC Director of Volunteers/Events, Stephanie Lester for arranging and running the event. Thank you to WCC Board Member Eugene Sirls, his wife Antoinette and WCC Office Manager Jennifer Edmondson for working the event.

Look for future fun events with the Westbury Area Patrol constables in upcoming *Criers!* *Coffee with the Constable* will return in October.



Photos from WCC 2014 Cool Down With the Constables Event




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