



# Westbury Crier

VOLUME 57, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2011

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- White Elephant Community Garage Sale: Saturday, Oct. 29 8AM-Noon
- WCC Board Meeting: Oct. 19, 7PM Westbury High School
- MANDATORY WATER RESTRICTIONS STILL IN EFFECT
- BURN BAN INCLUDES NO SMOKING IN CITY PARKS
- October heavy trash is JUNK WASTE

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## Love to Shop Garage Sales?

### *It's Time for the Fall White Elephant Garage Sale!*

**When:** Saturday, October 29, from 8AM-Noon

**Where:** Westbury United Methodist Church Parking Lot (5200 Willowbend)

**Rain Date:** Saturday, November 5, from 8AM—Noon

**Parking:** St. John's Presbyterian (5020 W. Belfort); Handicap parking is available at the event parking lot

The White Elephant Sale is great because you get to shop over 50 "garage" sales in one location! There are always super deals and steals to be had. The Westbury Civic Club provides its residents with spring and fall community garage sale events since garage sales, estate sales, and yard sales are NOT allowed at Westbury residences.

**Booths are on-sale in the WCC Office. PLEASE CALL 713-723-5437 FOR BOOTH AVAILABILITY.**



## Vote on Election Day: November 8

Want to do something important for your neighborhood? Vote in the election on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. Many people think their vote doesn't count. That's not true. Showing politicians that Westbury residents get out and vote DOES make your vote count. Politically active (voting) neighborhoods get noticed. See page 12 for a list of candidates.

Most of Westbury is in District K. Some is still in District C. We will vote on all 5 At Large Positions. This means Westbury could potentially have 7 good representatives on Council. So let's get out the vote and show them WESBURY VOTES!

Continued on page 12

## National Night Out: October 4

National Night Out (NNO) 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.

Please contact the Westbury Civic Club to let us know the location of your NNO event. Why tell us? we want to acknowledge your efforts in the next newsletter. Send in your NNO pictures to be included in the next Crier or on our website. Contact us at 713-723-5437 or [westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net)

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## Westbury Civic Club Board of Directors 2011

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

## Directors at Large 2011

Communications	Melissa Denney	wcccommunications@westburycrier.com
Community Relations	Cindy Chapman	wcccommunityrelations@westburycrier.com
Deed Restrictions	Liz Klingensmith	wccdeedrestrictions@westburycrier.com
Flood Control & Infrastructure	Ken Downey	wccflood@westburycrier.com
Greenspace Beautification	Hazel Potvin	wccmaintenance@westburycrier.com
Membership	Janie Schexnayder	wccmembership@westburycrier.com
Security	Morgan Gaskin	wccsecurity@westburycrier.com
Volunteer Coordinator	VACANT	wccvolunteers@westburycrier.com

## Section Directors 2011

Westbury 1	Sylvia Rendon	Westbury1@westburycrier.com
Westbury 2	Shawn Thomas	Westbury2@westburycrier.com
Westbury 3E	Don Bryan	Westbury3E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 3W	Ron Brown	Westbury3W@westburycrier.com
Westbury 4E	John Cashin	Westbury4E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 4W	Vicki Eldridge	Westbury4W@westburycrier.com
Westbury 5E	Virginia Livingston	Westbury5E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 5W	Sara Roberts	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	Dorothy Rhoades	Parkwest3@westburycrier.com

## Westbury Civic Club Office

**Office Hours:** Monday—Friday 9:30AM— 1:30PM\*

**Address:** 5322 W Bellfort Ste 107 Houston, TX 77035

**Phone:** 713-723-5437

**Email:** Westburycc@sbcglobal.net

\*The office is closed on all major holidays and weekends

**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

Councilmember Anne Clutterbuck

832-393-3004

County Commissioner El Franco Lee

713-755-6111

## 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

## Why is the WCC office closed during listed hours?

The office manager only works part-time. She is most likely at the bank, post office or out in the neighborhood checking on reports and houses.

**Please leave a note!**

**WCC OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Friday 9:30AM-1:30PM**

# President's Message

Finally a month with milder temperatures, a time perfect for meeting neighbors on National Night Out and for enjoying some Halloween fun at the end of the month. It's a great month for gardening, too.

This will be the first Halloween in 3 years that we will not be hosting our *Trick or Tree* free tree giveaway. With this year's drought, we will lose many trees. It's a good thing that we have planted thousands of them over the past 6 years.

I made a presentation at the Trees for Houston Urban Treekeeper certification course in September on "How to Start a Neighborhood Tree Planting" and was reminded of all the fun we had working on the esplanades, mulching, planting trees and getting to know one another. Hundreds of volunteers came together to make a difference. We gave away over 3,000 trees during those Trick or Tree events. My thanks go out to all my hard working friends and neighbors who support and work on our Green projects. None of this tree planting would have been as successful without Hazel Potvin, our outgoing Greenspace director. Her support, friendship and can-do attitude made all the difference.

October is National Night Out month and

I am looking forward to visiting as many block parties as I can. Please consider hosting a party on your block; it is easy and fun and a great way to build neighborhood relationships. We are each other's eyes on the street. A concerned neighbor is one of the best crime deterrents.

Thanks to all who came out for the Annual Meeting. METRO President Greanias was a wonderful speaker; many informative reports were given; great door prizes were given away; and we thanked our good friend and Councilmember Anne Clutterbuck for her six years of service and friendship. Your 2012 officers and directors were elected and the bylaws were amended. It was a good meeting.

November 8 is Election Day. Let's show Houston how much Westbury cares and have a HUGE voter turnout. **It is especially important this year for Westbury residents to vote as the district lines have been re-drawn and much of Westbury is now in district K. Please vote!**

Enjoying the cooler temperatures and the rainfall!

Becky Edmondson

## Annual Meeting Recap

- Annual meeting attendance: over 40 Westbury residents attended
- 2012 WCC Board was elected
- Thank you to Jackie Murray of Weichert Realtors and to Fainmous BBQ for graciously donating door prizes. Every attendee received a door prize.
- Presented Anne Clutterbuck with Recognition of Service award and named the orchard at the community garden after her, Anne's Orchard
- METRO CEO, George Greanias, spoke about METRO and their future plans
- Voted and passed a resolution for WCC support of Project Brays funding
- Hazel Potvin announced that WCC received honorable mention in Keep Houston Beautiful 2011 Mayor Proud Partners Award for our work in esplanade beautification
- Candidates Larry Green & Wendell Robbins attended the meeting
- Thank you to Jackie Murray of Weichert Realtors for providing cookies and water

## 2011 Westbury Civic Club Dues

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to:  
Westbury Civic Club, Inc.**

**Mail to:  
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Westbury Civic Club Membership	\$36	\$
Greenspace Beautification	\$25	\$
Westbury Area Patrol	\$234	\$
<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>

## Thank You Westbury!

We greatly appreciate the residents who used the past *CRIER* issues to submit their 2011 dues. Here's another chance to submit your dues and help us get another deputy added to our patrol!

# The Faces of the Westbury Civic Club



**Joe Niles** is the new section director for Parkwest 3. Joe has lived in Houston for over 20 years. He attended Pershing Middle School and later graduated from Bellaire High School. After graduation, Joseph moved to Baton Rouge and attended Louisiana State University. He received a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering. In 2006, Joe moved back to Houston and began working for an engineering and construction firm. After a couple of years, Joe and his wife Monica, purchased a home in Parkwest 3 because of its central location, quiet/clean streets, great neighbors, and beautiful trees. Joe is active in church, enjoys traveling, volunteering and helping others, and sports.

**Robert Capps** is the section director for Westbury South. He is a long-time resident. He went to Andy Anderson Elementary, Johnston Middle School and Westbury High School, graduating in 1978. Robert is a graduate of Houston Baptist University. He is married and has two daughters. In his spare time, Robert enjoys walking the neighborhood, gardening, and playing golf.



The following positions are VACANT:

**Deed Restrictions-** Work with City Legal Department to enforce Westbury Deed Restrictions

**Greenspace Beautification-** Work with our landscaping contractor, City of Houston, and community volunteers on the upkeep of the esplanades and parks.

**Security-** Work with HPD and Precinct 5 Constables Office regarding security .

**Volunteer Coordinator-** Work with the WCC Board and the WCC office to coordinate special events and recruit volunteers.

**Section Directors for Westbury 2, Westbury 4, Westbury 5-** Represent your section at board meetings. Do periodic drive-thrus to identify maintenance issues (signs, street lights, drainage, etc) and bring your creative vision to make a better Westbury.



## \*WE ARE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD\*



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



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



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# What's Happening in Westbury

## October 2011 Events & Meetings Calendar

<b>Thur 6</b>	<b>11th Annual Candidates Forum 7-9PM</b> Fondren Middle School—6333 S. Braeswood
<b>Mon 10</b>	<b>Westbury Community Garden Meeting 6:15-7:45PM</b> Platou Center—11655 Chimney Rock Open to the public
<b>Sat 15</b>	<b>Willow Waterhole Monthly Audubon Society Bird Survey 8AM</b> Meet at The Gathering Place parking lot at 5310 S. Willow
<b>Mon 17</b>	<b>Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM</b> The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow
<b>Wed 19</b>	<b>WCC Board Meeting 7PM– 9PM</b> Westbury High School - 10911 Chimney Rock
<b>Tues 25</b>	<b>SW PIP (Police Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM</b> Aramco Building—9009 W. Loop South
<b>Sat 29</b>	<b>Fall White Elephant Community Garage Sale 8AM—Noon</b> Westbury United Methodist Church Parking lot @ corner of Willowbend and W. Bellfort. Handicap parking available
<b>Nov. 5</b>	<b>Rain Date for White Elephant Community Garage Sale if needed. 8AM– Noon @ Westbury United Methodist Church.</b>

### Important Trash & Recycling Information

- ♻️ Trash cans need to be out on curb by 7AM Thursday
- ♻️ Trash cans must be removed by 10PM Thursday
- ♻️ Trash cans must be stored out of sight.
- ♻️ No heavy trash out before 6PM the Friday before pick-up date
- ♻️ YARD WASTE is not considered tree waste and will not be collected with heavy trash. It is collected on Westbury's regular Thursday trash day as long as it is in the correct recyclable bags
- ♻️ Call 311 for all trash questions and complaints
- ♻️ Nearby Trash Depositories and Recycling Centers:  
**SW Trash Depository/Recycling Center 10785 Southwest Frwy**  
 Hours: Wed.—Sun. 9AM to 6PM; Accepts Junk Waste, Tree Waste and Recyclables.  
**Environmental Service Center 11500 South Post Oak**  
 Hours: Tues. & Wed. 9AM-3PM; 2nd Saturday 9AM-1PM  
 Accepts Hazardous Household Waste & Electronic Waste
- ♻️ Refer to [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com) for more trash and recycling information

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**Sunday, Nov. 6**  
Jazz in the Park (see pg 9)  
**Tuesday, Nov. 8**  
**ELECTION DAY! GO VOTE!**

## October 2011 Heavy Trash & Recycling Calendar

<b>Thurs 6</b>	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
<b>Tues 18</b>	Heavy Trash—JUNK WASTE (South of W. Bellfort)
<b>Wed 19</b>	Heavy Trash—JUNK WASTE (North of W. Bellfort)
<b>Thurs 20</b>	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
<b>Nov.</b>	Heavy Trash—TREE WASTE ONLY

**\*PLEASE NOTE: OCTOBER HEAVY TRASH IS JUNK WASTE. DO NOT PUT OUT HEAVY TRASH UNTIL OCT 14TH AT 6PM**



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# Mandatory Dues and Westbury Area Patrol

## What is the WCC doing to improve the WAP constable patrols?

We have two goals: to improve the financial stability of our Westbury Area Patrol (WAP) program and to eventually increase the number of constables. The WCC increased the voluntary contribution rate for WAP for 2010 and we have volunteers working in Westbury 2 to revise the deed restrictions to implement grandfathered mandatory dues. "Grandfathered" means that it would only apply to new homeowners who purchase homes after the deed restrictions changes are approved by residents of Westbury 2. We started in Westbury 2 because all homes in Westbury 2 have the same set of deed restrictions.

## This Month in Westbury History

The first *Westbury Crier* was published in July 1956. We have 55 years of monthly history at our fingertips. Here are some headlines and stories from the past.

### October 1956

◆ Color films of the 1955 Southwest Football Conference games will be shown. Kern Tips, one of the finest sportscasters, will call the plays. That should be reason enough to attend the next WCC meeting in the new community building.

### October 1966

◆ We urge you to pay your poll tax so that you retain your voice in matters political.

### October 1973

◆ Maplewood has set up a recycling operation at the Maplewood Pool and Westbury residents are encouraged to participate.

### October 1977

◆ Hillcroft ditch is being cleaned and reshaped thanks to the efforts of the civic club.

Have you read the **Working on Westbury** blog? Communications Director Melissa Denney thought a blog would be "fun" for the President. Read Becky's blog! <http://workingonwestbury.blogspot.com/>

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## Westbury 2 Residents and SecurityPlus

Residents of Westbury 2 are at the forefront of an initiative to move Westbury toward more stable finances, especially for our most expensive program, the **Westbury Area Patrol**, which is staffed by certified peace officers (constables) from the Harris County Precinct V Constables office. Volunteers are working to get signatures to change the deed restrictions for Westbury 2. Every signature is important and a majority of property owners need to sign the forms. More than 200 people have already signed approving the new deed restrictions. If more than one owner exists for a property, then the volunteers are trying to get the signatures of all of them, since each lot currently may have more than one vote.

The proposed amendment is brief, and addresses three items:

**Grandfathered mandatory dues** – Will NOT affect current homeowners; only owners who purchase a home after the amendment goes into effect will be subject to mandatory dues.

**One lot, one vote** – Clarifies the deed restriction language to match what is already in the WCC Bylaws.

**Westbury Civic Club**– Is named as the entity to collect and enforce mandatory dues.

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# Security / Crime

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

In August, our Constable program fielded 420 calls for vacation watches, alarms, animals, burglaries, criminal mischief, loud noises, domestic disturbances, information, open doors, stranded vehicles, suspicious people and vehicles, thefts, traffic stops and hazards. Their presence in our neighborhood is an important crime deterrent. We still need to collect \$19,000 to pay the remainder of the 2011 contract. Times are tough and that's when security is even more important. If just 10% or 500 residents sent in \$38; or 1,000 sent in \$20; then we'll have collected the 2011 annual contract fees. If you've already paid for 2011, then please encourage your neighbors to pay. Any amount helps, no matter the size.

## Westbury Area Patrol Donation Form

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

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

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

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

**I would like to make a donation to the Westbury Area Patrol.**

**Donation Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Get up-to-date information about events, crime and trash reminders. "LIKE" WESTBURY HOUSTON on Facebook. 211 people have "liked" Westbury so far. Are you one of them?**

**Constable  
Dispatch  
281-463-6666**

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

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

## Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37 \*

30 days preceding August 20, 2011

	Single-Family Residential	Apartment/ Condominium	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	15	3	2	3	23
Theft	8	10	6	6	30
Auto Theft	0	0	0	1	1
Robbery	0	0	1	0	1
Assault	0	2	0	2	4
Rape	0	0	1	0	1
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>60</b>

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

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# October is Fire Prevention Month

## October is Fire Prevention Month: "Stay Fire Smart"

### Working Smoke Detectors Save Lives...Test Yours Today!

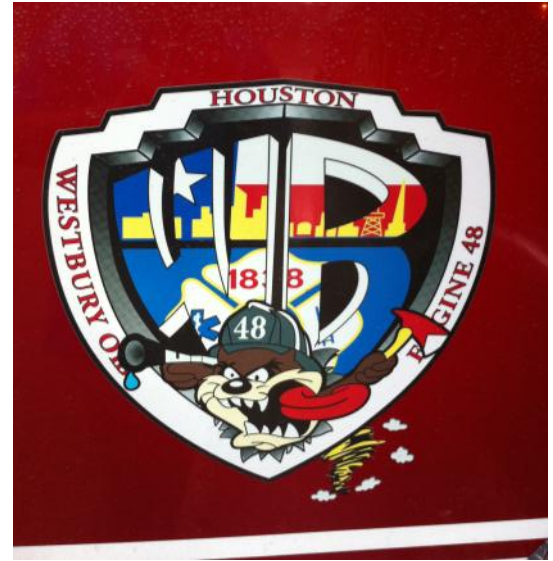
The Houston Fire Department (HFD) encourages everyone to look around your home for potential fire hazards and to install or check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors - possibly the most inexpensive, yet most important, security device you can install in your home. If you need a new smoke detector or assistance with installation, please call the HFD Public Affairs Office at 713-495-7900.

### Do You Have A Fire Escape Plan?

HFD stresses the importance of having a fire escape plan in place and practicing that plan every month with your family. Every escape plan should include two ways out of each room and the home, a safe meeting place outside the home, a way to call 9-1-1 and what to tell the operator. **REMEMBER: When You Get Out...Stay Out!**

### Cooler Months Are Ahead. Remember: Space Heaters Need Space

It is important to remember that there are dangers involved when you use space heaters and other means to heat your home. Please consult safety tips at [http://www.houstontx.gov/citizensnet/fire/safety/space\\_heater\\_card.pdf](http://www.houstontx.gov/citizensnet/fire/safety/space_heater_card.pdf). For more information on smoke detectors (including how you can receive a free detector), fire escape plans, safety tips on space heaters and more, please visit <http://www.houstontx.gov/citizensnet/fire/index.html>.



## MAYOR PARKER EXTENDS PARKS BURN BAN TO INCLUDE SMOKING

**September 16, 2011** -- Mayor Annise Parker today signed an executive order extending the City's temporary burn ban to include smoking in City parks. The smoking ban applies to lighted cigars, cigarettes, pipes or any other device used for the burning of tobacco or other plant material.

Mayor Parker last week banned the use of barbecue grills and all other outdoor burning in City parks during the ongoing drought. With the addition of the smoking ban, the City's policy is now consistent with Harris County's burn ban. Violations of the mayor's executive order carry fines of up to \$2,000 per offense. The executive order will remain in effect until drought conditions improve.

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# Westbury Area Schools

## Parker Elementary presents FunFest Annual Fall Carnival "Oh the Places You'll Go"

Let us take you on a whimsical journey through all things Dr. Seuss including our very own "Whooville". Attractions include several inflatable moon walks, a train, a rock climbing wall, a crazy hair booth, face painting, and our newest attraction – "Go Bubbling" -- in which participants climb into a giant inflatable ball and whisk around in a pool of water. Grab your passport and win fantastic prizes at our carnival games. Meet Dr. Seuss characters for a parade and autograph sessions. Enjoy carnival food at low prices while making memories with your children. Stop by the dunking booth to dunk your favorite teachers and Parker's illustrious principal, Dr. Houlihan.

Parker Elementary is a magnet school for music and this annual event helps fund student needs such as instrument replacement and repair, computer and science upgrades, library improvements, and other educational enhancements. We need community volunteers to help us staff this fun filled event. If you would like to make a donation of prizes or services, we gratefully accept contributions. For more information, contact GiGi Starbuck at [gigi@embassyskateboards.com](mailto:gigi@embassyskateboards.com) or 832-452-7276.

**Mark your calendars for this memorable event!  
Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, from noon to 4 PM**

## Support Westbury High School Baseball Team

Been bowling lately? For \$20 you can get an hour and 15 minutes of bowling; shoes and free food; and the Westbury Baseball team reaps the benefits. The WHS Baseball Bowling event is October 2nd at Palace Lanes on 4191 Bellaire from 2 to 5 PM. Contact Mylene Bole at [mbole@swbell.net](mailto:mbole@swbell.net)

Want to test drive a new Ford? Come out to Westbury High School on November 5th from 9 AM to 5 PM and FORD will be at Westbury High School offering FREE test drives of the 2011 Explorer, the 2011 Fiesta and the 2012 Focus. Here's the good news: you take a 15-minute test drive and Ford will donate \$20 per person (one per household) up to a maximum of \$6,000. You can also register for a chance to win a \$100 Best Buy Gift card.

The baseball team has many needs and these are great ways to come out and support Westbury High School. This year ALL of the bats have to be replaced due to new regulations. The team currently has one set of pants per player which a parent takes home to wash. Team members, and their parents, would love a second set of gray pants per player. The scoreboard doesn't work and the batting cage could use lights and a roof.

## Johnston Middle School Update

Wenden Sanders, Principal at Johnston Middle School, is pleased to announce an increase in enrollment. Sixty-nine percent of JMS students are zoned students, which is a 10% increase from previous school years. Johnston is a great school and we plan to increase this number annually.

Texas Music Education Association acknowledged the JMS Symphonic Orchestra as one of the top six in the state. We are very proud of orchestra director Rocha and his students for this great accomplishment.

JMS is presently under renovation with a completion date of summer 2012. Once all work is complete, we will have a community open house to celebrate our new look.

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# Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock

Supervisor: Chris Allen 713-726-7107 [Chris.allen@houstontx.net](mailto:Chris.allen@houstontx.net)

Monday-Thursday 12—8PM ; Friday 12-6PM

Open in the morning for scheduled classes

## Morning Classes/Groups

### Stretching Class

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9-9:45AM  
Contact Chris Allen 713-726-7107

### Westbury Quilting Bee

Tuesday, 12PM - 3PM  
Contact Janie at 713-721-5526

### Games

Wednesday, 10 AM to 12 noon  
Contact Wally at 713-729-9310

### Portable Projects

Thursday, 9:30- 11:30 AM  
Contact Hazel at 713-729-4568

## Early Afternoon Classes

### NEW CLASS led by a local artist

#### Working with Clay

Wednesdays in October  
12:30 to 2:30 PM  
October 5, 12, 19, & 26  
\$10 fee for materials  
Contact Chris Allen to register

## Late Afternoon Classes

### After School Enrichment—

#### Grades 1 to 8 (Ages 6 to 13)

Daily, 3 to 6 PM  
Games, crafts, outside play,  
special activities.  
Contact Chris Allen to Register

## Evening Classes/Events

### TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly

Tuesdays, 5:45 to 7PM  
Weight loss support group  
Contact Dorothy at 713-723-4441 or  
Naomi at 713-988-2233

### Aerobics Boot Camp

Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30-7:30PM  
Contact Chris Allen to register or  
come preview the class

### Free Ballroom Dance Lessons

Wednesdays, 6-8 PM  
Contact Marilyn at 713-729-9425

## Monthly Meetings

### Westbury Community Garden Meeting

2nd Monday 6:15-7:45PM

## NEW GROUP FORMING:

### Daytime Bridge Group

Contact Dita Greary at 713-726-1868

## Recycle Paper at Chimney Rock Park

Please use the paper recycling bins at Chimney Rock Park, 11655 Chimney Rock. Your newspapers, catalogues, magazine, and cardboard help to bring in money to benefit programs for children and adults at the Platou Community Center in the park.

We want to thank everyone currently using the park recycling bins and hope that more people will find them and keep them filled.

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# November 8, 2011 is Election Day—GO VOTE!

Probably the most important thing you can do for Westbury is to vote in the upcoming City election. If you are not a registered voter, you can do so before October 11<sup>th</sup> at one of the Tax Office substations (6000 Chimney Rock). The election is November 8<sup>th</sup>. Early voting begins October 24<sup>th</sup> and ends November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Our partners, the Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD) and Southwest Houston 2000 (SWH2000) will be hosting the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Candidates Forum on Thurs, October 6, 2011, 7-9 PM at Fondren Middle School located at 6333 South Braeswood. They encourage residents and property owners to submit questions prior to the forum, which can be directed to [nlacasa@hhcllp.com](mailto:nlacasa@hhcllp.com). Come join us to meet the candidates who want to represent you for the next two years.

The League of Women Voters will sponsor some debates that may be viewed on TV and on demand. Visit its very informative website. Another good website for information is [www.offthekuff.com](http://www.offthekuff.com). The site has comprehensive information about the candidates and links to their sites.

Most of Westbury is in District K. Some is still in District C. We will vote on all 5 At Large Positions. This means Westbury could potentially have 7 good representatives on Council. So let's get out the vote and show them WESTBURY VOTES!

<b>District K City Council Member</b>	<b>District C City Council Member</b>
Larry Green Pat Frazier Alex Gonik	Ellen Cohen Randy Locke Josh Verde Karen Derr Brian Cweren
<b>At-Large 1 City Council Member</b>	<b>At-Large 3 City Council Member</b>
Stephen Costello* James Partsch Scott Boates Don Cook	Melissa Noriega* Chris Carmona
<b>At-Large 2 City Council Member</b>	<b>At-Large 4 City Council Member</b>
David W. Robinson Kristi Thilbaut Elizabeth C. Perez Andrew C. Burks Jr. Gordon R. Goss Bolivar "Bo" Fraga Eric B. Dick Jenifer Rene Pool Michael "Griff" Griffin Roslyn "Rozzy" Shorter	C.O. "Brad" Bradford* Louis Molnar Amy Price
	<b>At-Large 5 City Council Member</b>
	Laurie Robinson Jolanda "Jo" Jones* Jack Christie Bob Ryan

\*incumbent

## THANK YOU CITY COUNCIL MEMBER ANNE CLUTTERBUCK

Westbury is a better place thanks to the fruits of your labor. We have named the Westbury Community Garden orchard in your honor. Thank you for your six years of service and friendship.



WCC President Becky Edmondson and Westbury Community Garden President Ray Sher present CM Anne Clutterbuck with recognition of service award at the WCC Annual Meeting on Sept 21, 2011

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# Outdoors in Westbury

## Yard of the Month

Yard of the Month judging was discontinued for September due to the drought. We want to remind everyone of the mandatory water restrictions. However, you MAY water by hand at any time. It is important to save your trees and bushes. Dead bushes surrounding your home are a fire hazard.

We applaud the industrious and inventive homeowners who took advantage of the broken water mains. Many hooked up pumps or used buckets to take advantage of free city water. You don't have to have a broken water main. Recently, our WCC office manager noted a homeowner using a large rain puddle at their curb to water their lawn.



Water pump used in rain puddle by a Westbury resident

## Westbury Community Garden

We are looking forward to a 1,500-gallon rain cistern, which is scheduled to be installed on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Gary, of Plumbco Plumbing, for fixing a water faucet that was leaking. Gary has helped us several times at the garden for no charge. (Look for the Plumbco advertisement in the Crier).

We will feature, in the upcoming months, some drought tolerant plants that can replace your dead ones. Come by the Community Garden and see how well the native plants in our butterfly garden.

## Willow Waterhole Update

Good things are happening at the Willow Waterhole! A monthly concert series, featuring our local schools, will begin on **Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, at 4 PM**. The first concert, **Jazz in the Park**, will feature Westbury High School's Jazz Band. Save these future concert dates: **February 19**, featuring Parker Elementary and **March 25**, featuring Johnston Middle School.

According to the Harris County Flood Control District, the completion of Compartments 4 and 5 and the start of Compartment 3 are out for bid and should be approved before the end of the year. This is incredible news and due, in part, to the hundreds of letters of support sent to Washington in support of Project Brays.

The September 2011 Audubon Bird Survey recorded 40 species including three **roseate spoonbills** and the return of the **belted kingfisher** on the bayou. The species count is above 150 now for the Conservation Reserve. To celebrate the incredible birds of the Willow Waterhole a beautiful calendar is in the works. It will be out in time for holiday gift giving!

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 11 beds+11 beds+11 beds+11 beds



**PARKWEST \$227,500**  
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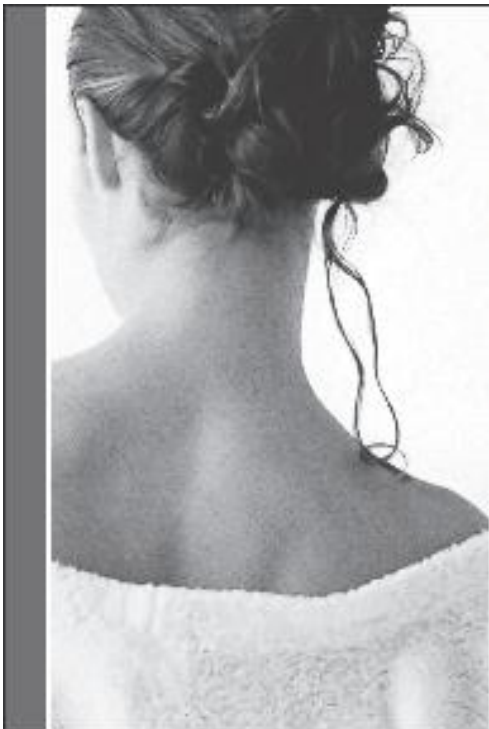
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Memorial Hermann Southwest - Breast Care Center  
 7600 Beechnut 1st Floor, Pavilion

Free parking in the Southwest Lot off of the 59 feeder road. Parking validated at the event.

**Tuesday, October 25 • 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

The event is free, but limited to those 21 years of age and up. Seating is limited and registration is required. To register, call 713.222.CARE (2273). To schedule your mammogram to take place during the event or another day call 713.456.4584 or schedule online at [memorialhermann.org](http://memorialhermann.org).

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# Neighborhood and Section News

## Cindy Chapman - New Director on BOMD Board

The Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD) serves southwest Houston and recently assimilated the Westbury and Braeburn communities. Cindy Chapman, past WCC President and currently WCC Director of Community Relations, was inducted onto the BOMD Board in September and is serving on the committee updating the BOMD Service Plan.

Since the vacant position was for a commercial representative, Westbury Square Professional Building / Bryan Calvin Smith Insurance sponsored Cindy. We would like to thank Don Bryan, longtime Westbury resident and business owner, for sponsoring someone with extensive knowledge of issues related to Westbury and southwest Houston to the BOMD board.

## Halloween Safety

The safest way to celebrate Halloween is to participate in an organized event coordinated by a local school or place of worship. For those who still want to observe the holiday in the traditional manner, the HPD suggests following these tips:

- Children should wear light-colored costumes short enough to prevent tripping. Reflective tape can be added to enhance visibility.
- Your child should be able to see properly through a mask.
- Children should be accompanied by an adult at all times, should stay within their neighborhood and only visit homes of people they know.
- Carry a flashlight after sunset.
- Examine all candy or treats at home before allowing your child to eat them. If any candy appears to be tampered with, throw it away.

## Greenspace Award

Hazel Potvin and Karen Schubert accepted a certificate on behalf of the WCC and the WCC Greenspace Beautification Committee for participating in the city Neighborhood Matching Grant program. Westbury was one of several neighborhoods that took advantage of grant money to make community beautification improvements, and our grant was used to update the landscaping at the Westbury subdivision marker signs. The certificates were presented by CM Brenda Stardig and Mayor Annise Parker.

## New Requirements to Claim Homestead Property Tax Exemptions

If you are a new homeowner or plan to apply for an Over-65, Disability, 100% Disabled Veteran, or Surviving Spouse residential property tax exemption, you need to know that new documentation requirements went into effect on Sept 1. The Texas legislature enacted new requirements to loopholes which allowed some people to improperly claim exemptions or to claim exemptions for multiple properties. In addition to the more rigorous documentation requirements, the state also has authorized appraisal districts to access the Texas Department of Public Safety database so that differences in addresses can be audited.

Applicants must now provide the following documents: a copy of Texas driver license or state-issued ID card, motor vehicle registration receipt, and a current utility receipt. **All addresses must match the street address of the residential homestead.** If the applicant does not own a vehicle, then a notarized affidavit must be submitted. Additional requirements may exist, depending on the exemption being sought.

For more information, go to the Harris County Appraisal District website [www.hcad.org](http://www.hcad.org)



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