



Westbury Crier

VOLUME 59, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2012

HIGHLIGHTS:

- White Elephant Sale Saturday, Oct. 27, 8AM-Noon
- WCC Board Meeting, October 17 @ 7PM Westbury Baptist Church
- Check out the new Westbury family feature on page 13
- October's heavy trash is JUNK WASTE

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Westbury Civic Club, Inc
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WCC Publication Committee
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IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

Westbury White Elephant Community Garage Sale



- When:** Saturday, October 27, from 8AM - Noon
- Where:** Westbury United Methodist Parking Lot (5200 Willowbend)
- Rain Date:** Saturday, November 17, from 8AM - Noon
- Parking:** St. John's Presbyterian (5020 W. Bellfort) Handicapped parking 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.



Make Your Voice Count! Vote in the 2012 Election!

October 18: Voter's Forum @ WHS, see page 17

October 22: Early Voting begins

November 6: Election Day

****READ ALL ABOUT THE DIFFERENT ISSUES EFFECTING WESTBURY ON THE BALLOT. CITY BONDS, HISD BONDS, HCC BONDS & METRO. DISCUSSION ON PAGES 15-19.**

Thank you to the following advertisers who donated **DOOR PRIZES** for the annual meeting!

- *Jackie Murray, Weichert Realtors
- *Susan Brock, Brock & Foster
- *Tony & Charley Porcarello, Coldwell Banker
- *Pam Schertz
- *Plumbco

Willow Waterhole Movie Night

Friday, October 19 at 7 – 9:30 PM

"Not-so-Scary Classic Movies" projected on an outdoor screen near the South Gazebo. **FREE.** Prizes will be offered for the best Halloween costumes. Two movies will be played: "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" and the Boris Karloff version of "Frankenstein". Bring your own chairs or blankets. If you wish, bring a picnic supper, tables have been ordered. The gate to Willow Waterhole at Dryad will be opened for visitors to park near the S. Gazebo.

Westbury Civic Club Board of Directors

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

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Flood Control & Infrastructure	Ken Downey	wccflood@westburycrier.com
Greenspace Beautification	Carlos Mata	wccmaintenance@westburycrier.com
Membership	Janie Schexnayder	wccmembership@westburycrier.com
Security	Leslee Cross	wccsecurity@westburycrier.com
Volunteer Coordinator	VACANT	wccvolunteers@westburycrier.com

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Parkwest 2	Peter Zografos	Parkwest2@westburycrier.com
Parkwest 3	Joe Niles	Parkwest3@westburycrier.com

Westbury Civic Club Office

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 9:30AM— 1:30PM*, Closed Fridays

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

Phone: 713-723-5437 **Office Manager:** Jennifer Edmondson

Email: Westburycc@sbcglobal.net

*The office is closed on all major holidays, weekends (follows HISD calendar)

FREE NOTARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO ALL WESTBURY RESIDENTS

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Westbury Area Patrol Constable Dispatch

281-463-6666

HPD Non-Emergency

713-884-3131

Power Outages (Centerpoint)

713-207-2222

Westbury HPD Storefront

713-726-7126

Platou Community Center

713-726-7107

Poison Control

1-800-764-7661

Street Light Repairs (Give pole number)

713-207-2222

District K Councilmember Larry Green

832-393-3016

District C Councilmember Ellen Cohen

832-393-3004

County Commissioner El Franco Lee

713-755-6111

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 473
likes on our Facebook
page, Westbury Houston?**

WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM

President's Message

All in all September was a wild month. We had our largest civic club turnout in years, thanks to all of you who support us. Your participation is so important. Sharpstown Civic Association had to discontinue their constable program on September 1, 2012 due to low participation. It is one reason we want to amend our deed restrictions to have mandatory (grandfathered) dues. We want Westbury to remain a safe and vibrant community.

And speaking of participation, Election Day is November 6th and Early Voting extends from October 22 – November 2, so we are going to feature some of the important local ballot items this month.

We, as Houstonians and taxpayers, are being asked to make an investment in Houston. Maybe everyone thinks this at one time or another, but this is a pivotal time for Houston. Yes, we have a lot going on nationally, but what happens here at home affects us every day. We have an opportunity to say what the future will look like and that is exciting. I know many people are apathetic or tired or feel that their one vote, one voice doesn't really matter. What I have discovered is that votes do matter...at least here in Houston and in Westbury.

What is important is that you **VOTE**. Westbury/Parkwest is the second largest neighborhood in Houston and we have a huge voice if we all participate by voting. We may not be "inside the loop" or the wealthiest neighborhood, but we can be a proactive, vocal group that politicians notice. Don't you think it's time someone listens to you? Don't you think it's time someone hears what you think?

"Like" our Facebook page, Westbury Houston!

Westbury's biggest asset is our residents. Westbury's biggest asset is YOU! Books call it social capital. I call it my friends and neighbors. I am no longer amazed at the many talented, giving people who are my neighbors. I want to thank all of you again for your support and dedication to our neighborhood. We will always have challenges, but we will prevail because we have a strong and caring base of people.

In this issue you will read about some of the ballot items and what they will mean to us in Westbury and in Houston. It is a bold ballot and will affect so many areas of Houston life. These items are at the end of the ballot. The HISD bonds will bring a new campus to Parker Elementary plus major improvements to Westbury High and Bellaire High, as well as to other schools. The HCC bond will build infrastructure right here in the Brays Oaks Management District. The City bond is split up into five items, and brings money to parks, police and fire stations, health clinics, libraries (Meyer), plus funding to demolish blighted properties for future housing. METRO has a referendum asking voters to approve a compromise between METRO and the various cities and Harris County regarding funding for "General Mobility Projects (GMP)".

It will be up to each of us to look at these items and decide what is best for us, for Westbury and for Houston. These referendums could change the face of Westbury with new schools, a new library, a HCC campus, and park improvements. But more importantly, whichever way you decide, PLEASE VOTE!

-Becky Edmondson

October Volunteer Opportunities

*Volunteers needed for White Elephant Sale (set-up, check-in, tear down, etc.), call Jennifer at 713-723-5437

*Scanning Historical Documents at the WCC office, call Jennifer at 713-723-5437

*Deed restriction revision committee, call Jennifer at 713-723-5437 for more information

*Willow Waterhole Movie Night Volunteers, Contact Becky Edmondson at westburygreen@gmail.com

*Nov. 10: Tree Planting, see page 6 for more information

WCC BOARD MEETING

October 17, 2012
7PM

Westbury Baptist Church RMC109



Look for WCC Board members Becky Edmondson and Cindy Chapman on an upcoming HISD commercial

Meet the New Security Director: Leslee Cross



Hello Westbury community. Our family has lived in this community for the last 20 years. Both of our daughters attended Parker Elementary and Johnston Middle Schools and now Madalyne teaches violin/viola at a private music school in New Hampshire, and Mickenzie is an engineer for a natural gas pipeline company in Northern California.

I have my own business as an exercise therapist which I have been doing for the past 20 years, and also run a company that produces and markets all natural dried fruit and nut snack mixes and sell it locally and from our website. My husband, Jim, is an independent IT consultant and steel guitarist.

I am excited to be a part of the Civic Club board. My goal is to help continue to make our community a safer place to live.

Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock

Monday-Thursday 12PM—8PM; Fridays 11AM-7PM

Supervisor: Dan Reilly, Daniel.reilly@houstontx.gov or 713-726-7107

"Like" us on
Facebook

Stretching Exercise Class

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays,
9-9:45AM

Improve your flexibility by joining this non-strenuous exercise class.

Aerobics

Tuesdays and Thursdays
6:30-7:30PM

To register, call
713-726-7107



Line Dancing Class

Mondays, 1-2 PM
For more information,
call 713-726-7107

TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly

Weight loss support group

Tuesdays, 5:45 to 7PM

Drop in to preview the program or
call Dorothy 713-723-4441 or
Naomi 713-988-2233

Get Creative With Clay

Join a clay workshop to make original objects from clay from shaping, firing, glazing to the final result. The workshop will run from October 3 to November 14 on Wednesdays from 12:30-3PM. Members of the existing group will offer help as needed. All participants will pay a \$25 materials fee for a supply of clay and to buy glazes. The Platou Center has a kiln room and drying shelves. Other materials to bring are a turntable (lazy susan), water bucket, sponges, clay tools, etc. Call Dan at 713-726-7107 to sign up and get a supply list.

Quilting Workshop

Tuesdays, 10AM - 3PM
Contact Janie at 713-721-5526

Games

Wednesdays, 10 AM
Contact Wally at
713-729-9310



Portable Projects

Thursdays, 9:30- 11:30 AM
Any kind of handiwork: knitting, crochet, needlepoint, card-making
Contact Hazel at 713-729-4568

Ballroom Dance Class

Wednesdays
Advanced Class 6-7PM
Beginner Class 7-8PM
Call Marilyn 713-729-9425

After School Enrichment

This is a free childcare program for children ages, 6 to 13, from 3PM to 6PM. After homework is completed, the kids play games, do crafts, and play outside. New this year is free snack & dinner program if desired



Don't forget you can
recycle cardboard/
paper items at
Chimney Rock Park!

Westbury Community Garden

Meeting at 6:15PM, Monday,
October 15. Public welcome!
Come learn about the Community
Garden and gardening.



5214 Starkridge
Another One Sold!!

WE ARE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

We live and work in the neighborhood!



JACKIE MURRAY
Cell: (713) 825-9179

jackiem@waynemurray.net



Wayne Murray Properties

Area Residents &
Neighborhood
Specialists



KENDYL MAURER
Cell: (281) 904-8199

kendylm@waynemurray.net



5622 Dawnridge
Another One Sold!!



5110 Torchlight
Another One Sold!!

"We sell more, because we do more."

Call for more information on featured listings!



5006 Creekbend
Another One Sold!!



5330 Willowbend
Another One Sold!!



10815 Ashcroft
\$319,900



5623 Rutherglenn
JUST LISTED



11114 Ashcroft
\$289,900



5131 Torchlight
\$189,900

What's Happening in Westbury

October 2012 Events & Meetings Calendar

Tues 2	Booths on sale for the White Elephant Community Garage Sale Open to everyone WCC Office— 5322 W Bellfort #107 during normal operating hrs
Mon 15	Westbury Community Garden Meeting 6:15PM Platou Community Center— 11655 Chimney Rock
Mon 15	Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow
Wed 17	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting 8:30-10AM Salem Lutheran—4930 W. Bellfort Open to all Westbury residents!
Wed 17	WCC Board Meeting 7PM– 9PM ***NEW LOCATION*** Westbury Baptist Church—RM C103 Open to all Westbury residents!
Thurs 18	Voter's Forum 7PM-8:30PM Westbury High School —11911 Chimney Rock See page 17 for more information
Fri 19	Willow Waterhole Movie Night 7PM-9:30PM More info, see page 20
Sat 20	Willow Waterhole Monthly Audubon Society Bird Survey 8AM Meet at The Gathering Place parking lot—5310 S. Willow
Tues 23	SW PIP (Police Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM Aramco Building—9009 W. Loop South
Sat 27	WESTBURY WHITE ELEPHANT COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE 8AM—Noon at Westbury United Methodist parking lot, see page 1 for more information
Nov 4	Willow Waterhole Live Music Event 4-6PM For more information, see page 20 Featuring Westbury Christian School music students
Nov 17	RAIN DATE FOR WESTBURY WHITE ELEPHANT SALE 8AM-NOON at Westbury United Methodist

Planning Calendar

Nov. 4 - Willow Waterhole Live Music Event
Nov. 8 – NEW Heavy Trash date
Nov. 10— Tree Planting Day
Nov. 17 – White Elephant Sale
Rain Date

October 2012 Heavy Trash & Recycling Calendar

Thurs 4	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Tues 16	Heavy Trash— JUNK WASTE (South of W. Bellfort)
Wed 17	Heavy Trash— JUNK WASTE (North of W. Bellfort)
Thurs 18	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury

November 2012 Heavy Trash Calendar

THURS 8	Heavy Trash— TREE WASTE ONLY ALL OF WESTBURY
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Important Trash & Recycling Information

- 🗑️ Trash cans need to be on curb by 7AM Thursday
- 🗑️ Trash cans must be removed by 10PM Thursday
- 🗑️ Trash cans must be placed at least 3 feet apart
- 🗑️ Trash cans must be stored out of sight.
- 🗑️ Yard waste MUST be in the correct biodegradable bags
- 🗑️ No heavy trash out before 6PM the Friday before pick-up date
- 🗑️ YARD WASTE is not considered tree waste and will not be collected with heavy trash. It is collected on 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. Current utility bill needed.
Environmental Service Center - 11500 South Post Oak
 Hours: Tues/Wed. 9AM-3PM; 2nd Saturday 9AM-1PM
 Accepts Hazardous Household Waste & Electronic Waste
- 🗑️ Refer to www.westburycrier.com for more trash and recycling information

ATTENTION ALL RESIDENTS:
EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 2012,
THE HEAVY TRASH SCHEDULE WILL BE CHANGED. ALL OF WESTBURY
WILL NOW BE PICKED UP ON THE 2ND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH.
 This change is only for the pick up day, not for the type of trash picked up.

For monthly breakdown of trash type, please see chart below.

City of Houston Heavy Trash Schedule

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

Keeping Westbury Clean & Green

Family Tree Planting Day

Saturday, November 10, from 8 AM to 12 noon

The Westbury Civic Club and the Westbury GreenTeam are joining up to organize a workforce to plant trees in Westbury. The trees will be planted on W. Bellfort and on the esplanade in front of Westbury High School. We would like to plant 50 trees, but the actual number will depend on number of volunteers who join in.

Trees for Houston, a non-profit organization devoted to increasing the tree canopy all over the Houston area, will be providing Nuttall Oaks in 15 gallon containers. People from Trees for Houston will be on hand to help.

Please call Hazel Potvin at 713-729-4568 or email hazelnut856@yahoo.com for more information or to register. Mark your calendar for November 10. Check out next month's Crier for more information.

Healthy Houston Initiative

Mayor Annise Parker announced the launch of Healthy Houston, an initiative designed to reduce obesity and increase healthy eating and exercise.

To lead the initiative, the Mayor has created a Healthy Houston Task Force. It will work to recommend and implement specific actions to reduce the incidence of obesity and its health and economic impacts in the City of Houston, including:

- Encouraging urban agriculture in community, school, backyard and rooftop gardens and, where feasible, on City property
- Improving access to healthy, affordable and locally produced food for all neighborhoods

In response, the Healthy Houston Task Force will address food deserts, or a lack of affordable, healthy food in various areas of the city. It will continue existing efforts, including the launch of the City Hall Farmers Market and farmers markets at the City's multi-service centers; new vegetable container gardens downtown and throughout the City; a Grocery Access Task Force and working with grocers on providing economic tools and incentives to help spur more supermarket and grocery development in areas where they are needed; the launch of Bike Share in Houston and the expansion of bike lanes and trails. For questions or comments, contact Laura Spanjian, Director of Sustainability at 832-393-0849 or laura.spanjian@houston.tx.gov.

Need Another Reason to Recycle? **REWARDS!**

If you live in Westbury and are participating in the single-stream recycling program, why not get rewarded for it? The City of Houston has teamed with Recyclebank to weigh all the recyclable materials collected in the large green carts from individual neighborhoods and convert the recycled activity into Recyclebank Points.

When you become a Recyclebank member, you can earn points for your green action. Recyclebank Points can be earned in many ways:

- *Home recycling in Westbury
- *Referring your friends and family
- *Learning about ways to green your lifestyle
- *Entering points codes from our partners

Use your points to shop for rewards from hundreds of local and national businesses in more than 10 categories online at Recyclebank.com.

The Recyclebank program is already underway, so if you're not yet registered, what are you waiting for? Registration is **free** and easy to do -- either visit Recyclebank.com or call 1-888-727-2978 today to get started. Don't forget to follow the prompts to verify your address so you can get the points.



Large Green Single-Stream Recycling Cans

WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM

RED
RIVER CONTRACTING

713-665-9500

WWW.REDRIVERTRADES.COM



RRC

Concrete Contractors

Driveways - Foundations - Patios - Walks
Pavers - Stained Concrete - Breakout
Residential & Commercial

Serving The Westbury Area for 5 Years

Texas Registered Builder #44786

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Westbury Park

Help Westbury Park Get a New Shade Structure

A new Westbury Park Playground is coming soon! See the design for one of the playground structures pictured below. There is an additional Toddler Playground included but it is not pictured. Westbury Park is the park located near Parker Elementary. The existing playground equipment will be demolished by the city in a few months and construction of the new playground area will begin in late 2012. City taxpayer funds will purchase and install the play equipment; however, the city does not provide shade covers similar to what has been built at the nearby Godwin Park playground. A "Friends of Westbury Greenspaces" committee has been created to raise additional funds to purchase a shade cover similar to what has been built at Godwin Park (see picture on the right). The neighborhood around Godwin raised money to build their shade structure, and **we can do it, too!**

Playgrounds are attractive assets to our community and play structures with shade will encourage our kids or grandkids to exercise outside even in hot weather. Please consider making a tax deductible contribution. Many employers offer matching gifts for community projects such as this. All amounts are appreciated and donors contributing \$250 or more will have their names engraved on a plaque placed at the playground as a permanent thank you.

Please use the form below. The WAIC is a 501(c)(3) organization which frequently partners with the Westbury Civic Club for improvement projects. Donations will be tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. If you would like more information about fundraising or would like to help with the effort, then please contact Westbury residents Bill Burhans (burhans56@yahoo.com) or Melanie Rosen (rosenworks3@gmail.com).



Main Playground
(Ages 6-12)



**Donations as of
9/23/12**

**\$4205 from Westbury
residents and \$1000 in
matching grants from
employers.**

Total= \$5205

Friends of Westbury Greenspaces Donation Form

Name(s): _____
Address: _____
Phone #: _____
Email: _____

Donation Amount \$ _____ * (if amount is \$250 or more please fill out below)

*Names on plaque: _____

Mail donations to: WAIC/Friends of Westbury Greenspaces, 5322 W. Bellfort, Suite 107, Houston, TX 77035.

Checks should be made payable to the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC)/Friends of Westbury Greenspaces.



10400 South Post Oak #E
Houston, TX 77035
Phone: 713-728-9663
Open: 11A - 8P Tue -Thur
11A - 9P Fri - Sat
Closed: Sun - Mon
Online: www.fainmousbbq.com

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**Westbury
Executive Office
Business Center**

We support growing businesses

11415 Chimney Rock
Houston, TX 77035

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

Westbury Community Garden/Housing Authority Update

UPDATE ON WCG/HHA

Last month, we notified residents that the 7-acre Westbury Community Garden (WCG) site, which is leased from the Houston Housing Authority (HHA), was at risk of being developed by the HHA as a site for low-income apartments – despite the numerous vacancies for low-income apartments in the area.

First, we want to thank all of you for your support on this issue. As we go to press there are over 1500 signatures on the petition. The comments are so up lifting and reaffirming of what we in Westbury are doing. Of course we can't print all of the comments but we wanted to share one of them:

The garden is not simply a collection of beds and trees; it is a tangible display of the dedication and sense of community that has made Westbury a wonderful place to call home. The garden's slogan of growing community through gardening is more than a collection of words; it is a statement of our passion to make our small corner of the world a better place. The Westbury Community Garden serves as an example for the rest of Houston of the great things that can be accomplished when a group of devoted people set out to make a difference.

Things are still in motion. The HHA has not yet made a decision. What we would like to see happen is for the 7 acres to remain permanent greenspace. The Mayor kicked off a new Healthy Houston Initiative that you read about on page 6. The Westbury Community Garden is already fulfilling this initiative and need in our community. This seven acres needs to remain greenspace.

You can help by writing your elected officials and by thinking of ways to fund this purchase. **If you have not yet done so, please sign the petition on change.org (search Westbury Garden). Or if you do not have access to the internet or a computer, please come by the WCC Office and sign the petition in person.**

Together we can make a difference!

BEFORE the Community Garden....



AFTER the Community Garden....



Stay updated through our website, www.westburycrier.com or our Facebook page, Westbury Houston. Come to the next WCC Board Meeting on Oct. 17 at 7PM at Westbury Baptist RMC109

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5 STaR KeNNeLS
281-835-4445

Boarding
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 Training
 Doggie Day Care
 Dog Park
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14420 Fondren, One block South of Beltway 8
www.fondren5starkennels.com

Meadows

Fun-tastic learning experiences
 Babies—Pre K.
 Professional teaching balanced w/ nurture
713.255.7025
cwehmeyer@wmbc.org



Meadows Preschool
The Little School with a Big Heart
 4300 W. Bellfort
 Houston, TX 77035

Sign the online petition @ www.change.org (search for Westbury garden); Link also available at www.westburycrier.com

ACTUAL PETITION WORDING

Tell HHA and City of Houston: Save the 7-acre Westbury Community Garden Site in Houston

Subject: *Do Not Spend 27 Million Federal Tax Dollars to Build Low-Income Housing Units on the Site of the Westbury Community Garden and Do Not Spend Money to Buy Adjacent Property on Hillcroft to Build the Apartments.*

I just signed a petition to support saving the 7-acre Westbury Community Garden site in Houston. The Westbury Community Garden is one of the largest and most successful community gardens in Houston and has won local and national awards for its work "growing community through gardening". I request that the HHA find an alternative site to build low-income housing units in Houston, rather than using the 7-acre site of the Westbury Community Garden and any adjacent properties. As additional justification for this request, the Westbury Community Garden is located next to a 940-unit, low-income apartment complex with more than 300 vacant units. Furthermore, the Brays Oaks Management District, where the garden is located, has thousands of vacant apartments available for lease at this very moment.

In closing, I ask that the HHA please honor its own corporate promise "to effect positive change in lives and communities citywide...while changing...communities for the better". Neither the construction of a housing project on the site of the Westbury Community Garden nor the proposed acquisition of the adjacent Hillcroft frontage property for more housing is in the best interest of the local community. Thank you for accepting my comments on this important topic.

X
Description of the Westbury Community Garden (with Photo)
 For almost 30 years, a 7- acre tract of land at Greencraig and Dunlap in the Westbury SuperNeighborhood owned by the Houston Housing Authority (HHA) has been park space. It was first leased by the City of Houston's Parks & Recreation Department and since 2009, the site has been leased to the Westbury Civic Club. The location is home to the Westbury Community Garden (WCG), one of the largest, most successful community gardens and winner of both local and national awards. The garden serves to educate adults and children about good nutrition and ecology, strengthen community spirit, provide organically-grown food, and serve as a gathering place for the community. There are 64 raised beds, an education pavilion, an orchard, compost areas, rain water collection and a butterfly garden. An expansion had been

planned in October with a corporate sponsor to add: 35 more beds to satisfy the waiting list; an acre of fruit trees to answer a request from a local food pantry partner; and a Children's garden area to expand the outreach for Foerster Elementary and area children. The garden's slogan is "Growing Community through Gardening" and that is what it does.

We have successfully created a space where residents of area single family homes garden with residents of the nearby multi-family housing. Our gardeners are as diverse as the produce they grow.

We believe that the Houston Housing Authority's proposal to spend an estimated \$27 million of federal tax dollars to build a 175-250 unit housing project on the land currently occupied by the productive, positive WCG is a misguided use of land, effort and money. There is plenty of "affordable housing" available in the area. In the Brays Oaks Management District there are more than 100 low-income apartment complexes with over 23,000 units in total; there are thousands of vacant units available for lease right now, including more than 300 vacancies in the apartment complex adjacent to the garden.

Building an affordable housing project in this location would only concentrate poverty in an already distressed community. There are no nearby large area grocery stores. This area is a food desert.

We need more green space, not more apartments. Please help us save this seven acre tract of green space and keep the Westbury Community Garden growing.

We are so appreciative of all the partners who recognized the value in what we were doing and helped make the Westbury Community Garden what it is today! Leadership Houston Class XXVIII, Keep Houston Beautiful, Keep America Beautiful, Keep Texas Beautiful, Scotts Miracle Gro, HISD's Foerster Elementary, HISD administration, Bethel's Heavenly Hands, Lloyds Register, Thermo Fisher, Houston Astros, KB Homes, Centerpoint Energy, Hoar Construction, Retired NFL Players, CM Anne Clutterbuck, State Rep Alma Allen, City of Houston's Solid Waste Dept, Mayor's Office; Fox Sports, Plant a Row for the Hungry, National Gardening Association, the Garden Writers Association, Franklin Park Conservancy, Urban Harvest, Bellaire United Methodist Church, Student Conservation Association, Mayors Anti-Gang Task Force, Nestles, SuperNeighborhood 36, Brays Oaks Management District, Westbury Civic Club, Westbury Area Improvement Corporation, Westbury SuperNeighborhood 37, Westbury Garden Club, Girl Scout Gold Award, Boy Scout Eagle project, the City of Houston's Dept of Neighborhoods, Delta Kappa Gamma ; and hundreds of individuals who donated their time and money and talent.

In closing, we ask the HHA to please honor its own corporate promise "to effect positive change in lives and communities citywide...while changing...communities for the better". Neither the construction of a housing project on the site of the Westbury Community Garden nor the proposed acquisition of the adjacent Hillcroft frontage property for more housing is in the best interest of the local community.

- The Westbury Community Garden leadership



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Crime/Security

Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37* 30 days preceding September 23, 2012

	Single-Family Home	Apt/Condo	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	10	2	1	0	13
Theft	12	4	4	6	26
Auto Theft	6	3	0	1	10
Robbery	0	0	1	0	1
Assault	0	3	0	0	3
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	28	12	6	7	53

*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 9/23/12)

12100	Ashcroft	Theft
12600	Ashcroft	Theft
12100	Atwell	Burglary
6000	Beaudry	Theft
10900	Braewick	Burglary
12300	Chimney Rock	Theft
6000	Dawnridge	Theft/Burg
6000	Dryad	Auto Theft
10900	Dunlap	Auto Theft
5800	Duxbury	Burglary
6000	Effingham	Auto Theft
6000	Ettrick	Burglary
5700	Farwell	Theft
11600	Hillcroft	Auto Theft
11700	Hillcroft	Theft
5600	Hummingbird	Burglary
11600	Landsdowne	Auto Theft
5600	Ludington	Theft
5600	McKnight	Theft
11400	Mullins	Theft
11600	Rampart	Auto Theft
5800	Southminster	Theft
5900	W. Airport	Burglary

FREE HOME INSPECTION SURVEY

Sgt. Mitch Hutter spoke at the WCC annual meeting: Precinct 5 Constable will do a free survey of your home on how to keep your family safer.

*Free Home Inspection Survey.

*Save 5-10% on your homeowners insurance (depending on your insurance carrier).

*Get simple suggestions on how to better secure your home.

*Call the Precinct 5 Constable's office at 281-463-6666 and ask for Sgt. Mitch Hutter.



Free Visual Fire Alarms for Qualified Applicants Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

The Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities and the Houston Fire Department need your help in spreading the word that, beginning in September 2012, there will be free installation of portable visual fire alarms (can be moved or used while traveling) for qualified individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.

To qualify for a Free Visual Fire Alarm, one must:

*Live in the City of Houston or Greater Houston Metropolitan area

*Have a low or fixed income

*Require the use of visual fire alarm because of a substantial hearing loss

*Fill out an application

For more information visit www.houstontx.gov/disabilities/freefirealarms.html. Additionally, contact the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities at mopdmail@houstontx.gov or call 281-936-0770 or 713-284-1990

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Dues Form

2012 Westbury Civic Club Dues

***Please send
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payment**

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

Thank You Westbury!

We greatly appreciate the residents who used the past *CRIER* issues to submit their 2012 dues.

We have reached our 2012 WAP goal!
 Can you continue to help raise money to get an extra deputy?

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 Mail to:
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 Dallas, TX 75397-5182
 Online payment:
 paypal.com—Send Money to
 westburycc@sbcglobal.net
 Make sure to include your
 address or account number**

Westbury Civic Club Membership	\$40	\$
Greenspace Beautification	\$25	\$
Westbury Area Patrol	\$230	\$
Subtotal	\$295	\$
Additional Contributions:		
Westbury Civic Club		\$
Greenspace Beautification		\$
Westbury Area Patrol		\$
Westbury HPD Storefront		\$
Total		\$

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Attention Westbury Families: This Page is for YOU!

Westbury Mom and Dad Club

Hello, Moms and Dads of Westbury!

Have you noticed the oodles of young parents strolling their tots around our tree-lined streets? Have you seen young families that you would love to introduce to your own young family, but are just not sure how to go about it? Well, now there is an easy way to meet dozens of families all at once: The Westbury Mom & Dad Club!

The WMDC is a dynamic group designed to help the young Moms and Dads of Westbury connect with each other. As a network, it will be versatile enough to meet every need. If you want a weekly mom meet-up, we're for you. If you just want company on that occasional trip to the zoo, we're for you. If you want a dads-only event, we're the group. A toy co-op? Look no further. If you want it to happen, this is the club that will help make it happen.

So, please, if you have at least one child that is 4 years of age or under, come join us at our next event. You won't regret it!

Email westburymoms@yahoo.com for more information. We look forward to meeting you and your wee ones!

Fun Family Events Around Houston

ZooBoo 2012 @ Houston Zoo— multiple weekends in October. For more info, check out www.houstonzoo.org/zooboo

Greek Festival—October 4-7— Times vary. Authentic Greek food, live music, live dancing, children's activities, etc. For more info, check www.greekfestival.org.

Fun Family Events In & Around Westbury

October 2—National Night Out

Meet your neighbors and other young families on your block!

October 19—Movie Night @ Willow Waterhole, 7-9:30PM

Kids and adults will enjoy classic movies projected on an outdoor screen near the "South Gazebo". **FREE.** Prizes will be offered for the best Halloween costumes. More info, see page 20.

October 20 & 21—Pumpkin Patch at Nature Discovery Center in Bellaire

11AM-4PM, Pumpkin patch, games, face paintings, food, etc! Fun for all ages! For more info, go to www.naturediscoverycenter.org

October 21—St. Thomas More Oktoberfest, 11AM-8PM

10330 Hillcroft. Fun for all ages! Food, live music, kids games, etc.

October 27—Westbury White Elephant Sale, 8AM-Noon

@ Westbury United Methodist. Over 50 garage sales in one place! Fun for the whole family!

October 27—Parker Elementary FunFest, Noon-4PM

Fall carnival. Everyone welcome, not just for Parker students! See page 14 for more information.

November 4—Willow Waterhole Live Music Event 4PM

For more info, see page 20.

***PLEASE NOTE: Some events charge fees for entrance and other items. Please check before going.**



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Parker Elementary

Parker Elementary presents: FunFest 2012 "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" Saturday, October 27th, 2012, Noon to 4 PM

"And Charlie, don't forget about what happened to the man who suddenly got everything he ever wanted. He lived happily ever after." - Roald Dahl, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*

The Parker Elementary PTO proudly presents FunFest, its annual fall carnival, on October 27th from noon to 4 PM. Admission is free and open to the public, and sure to please your entire family.

Arrive early to hear Parker's award winning band and illustrious jazz band. Wonka themed carnival games will keep your kids entertained for hours. You can purchase game tickets, or buy an "all inclusive" \$20 wristband covering games, rides and attractions (excluding the dunking booth). Attractions include several inflatable moon walks, a rockwall, face painting, and "Go Bubbling" in which participants climb into a giant inflatable ball and whisk around in a pool of water. Win fantastic prizes at our carnival games and enjoy traditional carnival food including roasted corn, hamburgers, pizza, funnel cakes, snow cones, cotton candy, and more at low prices. Of course, in light of the theme, there will be a large chocolate fountain. Be sure and stop by and meet Parker's new principal, Ms. Frodine.

Money generated by FunFest helps fund student needs such as school improvements, computer and science upgrades, library improvements, instrument replacement and repair, and other educational enhancements. Since it is a Parker FUNdraiser, the Parker PTO gratefully accepts contributions. For more information, contact GiGi Starbuck - ggstarbuck@gmail.com or 832 452-7276.

BUDDIES FOR KIDS at Parker Elementary

Buddies for Kids is a mentoring program to provide consistent support, guidance, and concrete help to children who are in need of a positive role model. Parker students involved in the Buddies for Kids program may be going through a difficult and/or challenging situation, a period of life in which they need extra support, or they may simply need to have another significant adult present in their life.

There is a required orientation/ training session in order to serve as a buddy. The time commitment is 30 minutes per week for at least one year to be a buddy to a child. It may be during their lunch break or recess as long as it is a consistent time (arranged with the child's teacher).

If you are interested, you can begin the process for volunteering at Parker by going to www.houstonisd.org to fill out the background check information. Once at the website, the "Community" tab will take you to the "Volunteer" information, which will lead you to the registration process. Once you have filled out the on-line form, you must take your driver's license to the receptionist at Parker Elementary to complete your registration.

The training/orientation-date will be in early October and a pizza kick-off party will follow soon thereafter.

For more information on Buddies for Kids, contact Michelle Vanderwater at mvanderwater@att.net.

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HISD Bonds on the 2012 Ballot

HISD Bond Election Overview

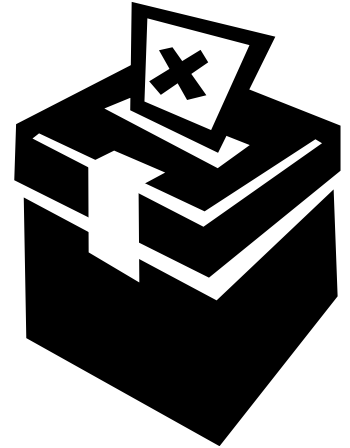
The Houston Independent School District (HISD) has proposed a bond package for Houston voters to consider in November involving 1.9 billion dollars. To learn more, please attend the non-partisan Voter's Forum on October 18 sponsored by Southwest Houston 2000 and the Brays Oaks Management District in the auditorium of Westbury High School from 7 – 8:30 PM. Or go to the HISD website.

Q – How is Houston affected?

A - Thirty-eight (38) schools would be rebuilt or modified, with a focus on high schools. Money is also proposed for technology, restroom, and security improvements across the district.

Q – How will Westbury and Southwest Houston be affected?

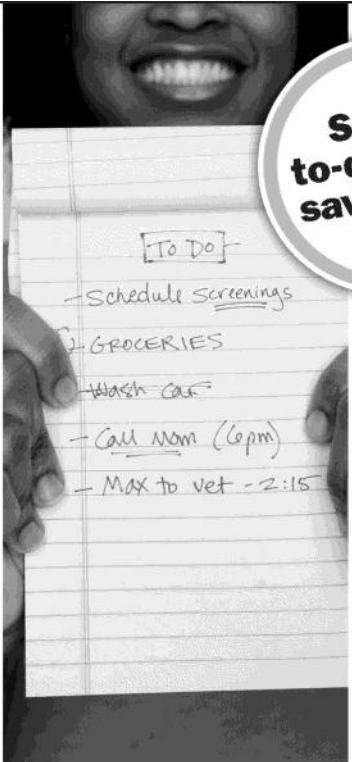
A – Leaders in the Westbury community have been advocating for improvements at Parker and WHS for many years. The building for **Parker Elementary** here in Westbury will be entirely replaced (more details about Parker on the next page). **Westbury High School** will see a replacement of the oldest part of the building, and a new wing will be built to house the 9th Grade Academy, which is currently entirely housed in trailers. Also, the Westbury High School campus will be enlarged through the acquisition of land next door where two apartment complexes are located. The additional land will be used for a regional athletic facility. Some local high school students attend other HISD schools which will also be improved by the proposed bond package: the nationally renowned **High School for the Performing and Visual Arts** will get a new campus, the nationally renowned **DeBakey School for Health Professions** will get a new campus, and **Bellaire High School** will get a new campus. There are too many changes proposed to list them all here.



Q – How much money are we talking about?

A - Those who have a Senior Homestead Exemption on their homes will not see any change in their property tax. HISD has the lowest tax rate in Harris County. HISD anticipates gradually phasing in a tax rate increase. Under this estimate, the property tax rate would increase by 1 penny in 2014, another penny in 2016, and 2.85 cents in 2017. By 2017 the tax rate would reach a maximum of 4.85 cents (1 + 1 + 2.85) per \$100 of taxable value. For the owner of the average HISD home with a market value of \$198,936, this would mean an increase of about \$70 per year, by 2017.

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*According to the American Cancer Society. For more specific information on risk factors, speak with your doctor or review American Cancer Society guidelines.

Parker Elementary on the HISD Bond Proposal

Both Parker Elementary and Westbury High School have major capital improvements proposed in the upcoming HISD bond election in November, and this month we will talk about Parker.

Parker Elementary was built in 1958 – currently 54 years old. Westbury needed a new school as the population of Westbury grew. Parker has been an educational mainstay of the community ever since. The vast majority of its students have grown up and become quite successful adults. They have bought homes in Westbury and sent their children to Parker; that's the kind of loyalty the school has inspired. Its academics have been, and are, top notch. Parker enrollment averages roughly 800+ students annually.

In 1975, Parker Elementary also became a Music Magnet. Since the inception of the Magnet program, student performances have taken place on the standard-sized stage of the cafeteria. As the magnet program has grown in size and artistry, student music groups, particularly the band and strings group have outgrown the stage. Parker's award winning music groups have performed across Houston, in addition to performing across Texas and the nation. The Parker Magnet Program is highly successful in

spite of limited campus facilities in which to rehearse and perform. Parker Elementary's aim is excellence! The Parker Family continues to excel as, ironically, the Parker physical plant is slowly crumbling.

The passage of the HISD Bond in 2007 allowed many new schools to be built across the district, while many others were repaired or received additional buildings. Thanks to the last bond proposal, Parker Elementary received new air conditioning and little else. Major structural aspects were not corrected. They remain today and grow worse.

The foundation of Parker Elementary is shot. The last classrooms at the end of two wings of the building are distinctly sloping downward. The foundation in the cafeteria is heaving. There are cracks and sizable gaps across the interior walls throughout the school. There are windows that can't be opened or shut because the foundation has shifted. The floors of the main office, administrators' offices, the clinic, the workroom and teachers' lounge are all uneven.

No school built in the 50s has the necessary number of electrical outlets needed to support the technology of today. Parker is no exception. The tech explosion since the 90s with new

electronic teaching devices, e.g. computers, smart boards, and wi-fi internet connections, has required additional wiring to be added to the building. Much of it is concealed, but much is not; there is simply too much of it to hide.

Many other systems, including plumbing, fire, and intercom/communication, have already or will, within the next two years, reach "end of life". Several things, including the teacher parking lot, have been beyond their expected life for as many as 20-25 years.

Parker Elementary needs a new building. It needs ready access to the high tech tools of 21st century instruction. The Parker Magnet could use an actual stage/performance area and practice rooms.

If the current HISD Bond referendum is passed, Parker Elementary will finally get the new building it needs. It will be better able to serve the families of Westbury.

Barbara Haverkamp
Parker Supporter and Volunteer

Cappy Selig, the retired, longtime principal for Parker Elementary and Westbury resident, is a strong supporter of the HISD School Bond proposal.

"This Bond proposal will benefit Westbury High School and Parker Elementary School and other schools in the Houston Independent School District. Improvements to our schools strengthen our property values and maintain our community. The Westbury subdivision stands to gain with the passing of the Bond referendum. We have strong schools in our area, but when you drive up to them, you see fifty-year old buildings in dire need of repair. Our children need up-to-date facilities, so that they can be educated in a twenty-first century classroom."

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HCC Bond on the 2012 Ballot

The Houston Community College (HCC) system has proposed a bond referendum for Houston voters to consider in November. WCC President Becky Edmondson attended one meeting on the topic, and three other directors (Cindy Chapman, Virginia Livingston and Vice-President Marcia Hartman) attended the September "SWHouston 2000 Bi-Monthly Breakfast" to hear HCC Trustee Richard Schechter speak on the topic. The following information is taken from that presentation and from data on the HCC website.

Q - How is Houston affected by HCC and the proposed bond referendum?

A – HCC is #1 in Texas for 2-year degrees and technical certificates (*Community College Week*, July 9, 2012). HCC now serves 40% more students than it did 5 years ago and it is difficult for students to schedule their classes since HCC is at 92% capacity. HCC proposes to renovate facilities and to build new facilities.

Q – How would Westbury and southwest Houston be affected if the HCC bond proposal is approved?

A – The **Coleman College Health Science Center** in the Texas Medical Center was built for 1500 students and currently has more than 3500 students earning associate degrees and certificates in 20 health science fields, but potential students are being turned away due to lack of space. The biggest single cost allocation in the bond proposal (\$120 million) is to build a new HealthCare Education and Early College Building at the Coleman campus.

The popular **West Loop HCC campus** will get campus improvements. Additionally, "Workforce Programs" prepare students with knowledge and skills for immediate entry into the workforce. There is a serious need for these programs in our area and HCC proposes to construct a **new Workforce Building and Campus within the Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD)**, which includes Westbury and our neighbors to the west. This new campus would serve up to 5,000 students.

Q – How much money are we talking about?

A – The last HCC bond election was in 2003. HCC is seeking approval for \$425 million in bonds for new facilities, improvements, and acquisitions. Homeowners with a 65+ Homestead Exemption will not see any change in property tax. A home with the standard HCC homestead exemption and valued at \$150,000 will see an estimated maximum annual tax **increase** of about \$31; meanwhile, a home valued at \$200,000 will see an estimated increase of \$42.37.



Caption- Photo from the Bi-Monthly Breakfast for Southwest Houston 2000 on September 11, 2012: Dr. Arnold Goldberg (VP of Southwest Houston 2000 and Dean of Workforce & Economic Development, HCC Southwest), Dr. Fena Garza (President of the HCC Southwest College Campus / West Loop), and HCC Trustee Richard Schechter.

Voter's Forum - Here in Westbury!

Southwest Houston 2000 will be sponsoring at Voter's Forum in the auditorium of Westbury High School on **Thursday, October 18, 2012, from 7 – 8:30 PM**. This event will be a moderated, non-partisan forum. Learn about the bond issues and meet candidates Ann Johnson and Sarah Davis running for Texas House District 134. HISD Board Trustee Mike Lunceford will discuss the HISD Bond proposal. While at WHS, you can tour the original part of the building which is scheduled to be replaced if the HISD bond referendum is approved.

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City Bonds on the Ballot



WCC Supports “Grads Within Reach Walk”

Leslee Cross, WCC Security Director, and Cindy Chapman, WCC Community Relations Director, participated in the September “Grads Within Reach Walk” with Westbury High School Principal Tim Wainright. The WCC contributed the funds for the event T-shirts worn by WHS participants. Grads Within Reach is an HISD initiative to contact high school students who have not shown up for class, to find out where they are, and to encourage them to return to school. There were many teams participating from WHS. This event was very informative about the challenges our urban schools face in keeping track of transitory families.

The City Bonds on the Ballot

Every 5 to 7 years, the City of Houston has a bond measure as part of a routine cycle of going to voters for, what Mayor Parker calls, the equivalent of pre-approval for a mortgage so the city can borrow money. The last bond package of \$625 million received voter approval in 2006. The current proposed bond package of \$410 million will fund Capital Improvements to rebuild and improve parks, police stations, firehouses, health clinics and libraries.

The good news? Because of Houston’s commitment to fiscal responsibility, this is the smallest bond proposal in 30 years **and does not require a tax increase.**

Proposition A: \$144 million in Public Safety Improvement Bonds to improve police stations and fire stations.

Proposition B: \$166 million in Park Improvement Bonds. Plus, these city bonds for parks and trails will be supplemented by a similar amount of money, to be raised privately.

Proposition C: \$57 million in Public Improvement Bonds for health, sanitation/recycling and essential improvements at city facilities

Proposition D: \$28 million in Library Improvement Bonds—including replacing the Meyer Library, which is the closest library to Westbury. This library is aging and inadequate due to its size and condition.

Proposition E: \$15 million in Bonds for affordable housing and demolition of derelict buildings

According to the City’s website, together with the City’s Hire Houston First program, the projects funded by city bonds will create up to 12,000 good, local jobs. They say in these tough economic times, Houston is leading the way---creating more jobs, borrowing less and improving the quality of life for all Houstonians for years to come.



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METRO Referendum on the 2012 Ballot

METRO'S BALLOT ITEM: GENERAL MOBILITY FUND

Years ago, METRO began funding the General Mobility Program (GMP) which gives 25% of its 1 cent sales tax back to the city, county and 14 small cities to pay for street improvements and related projects. The other 75 percent of METRO's sales tax revenue goes toward METRO programs, including Park & Ride, bus service, light rail, vanpool, HOV-lane operations and METROLift. The current GMP agreement expires on September 30, 2014, so a new referendum will be held this year to determine the fate of the GMP program.

You will be voting FOR or AGAINST the following item at the bottom of the 2012 ballot.

THE CONTINUED DEDICATION OF UP TO 25% OF METRO'S SALES AND USE TAX REVENUES FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED PROJECTS FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2014 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025 AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW AND WITH NO INCREASE IN THE CURRENT RATE OF METRO'S SALES AND USE TAX.

What "FOR" means: Harris County, Houston, and the other municipalities within the METRO service area have reached a compromise about the General Mobility Program (GMP) between now and 2025. If the referendum is approved by voters, then the compromise will be implemented. The GMP will continue and the incremental increases after 2014 will be shared by both the municipalities and METRO, with METRO spending their 50% of the incremental increase on buses, bus shelters, and to pay down debt but not for rail. Work would continue on the three light rail lines already in the works: the North, East, and Southeast Lines. Construction of the University and 90A light rail lines could end up being delayed until at least 2025, when another referendum would be called.

Who endorses the "FOR" position? Harris County, the City of Houston, METRO Chairman Gilbert Garcia, and the Houston Chronicle.

What "AGAINST" means: If the ballot item fails, then the METRO board will decide whether to keep all the income currently going to the GMP, or how to split up the money between the various entities which currently receive GMP funding. The funding issue may end up being settled via litigation or in the Texas Legislature.

Who endorses the "AGAINST" position? Houston Tomorrow and rail supporters.

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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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Willow Waterhole Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events at Willow Waterhole Conservation Reserve

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

Not-so-Scary Classic Movies – Fri., October 19, 7–9:30 PM

Kids and adults will enjoy classic movies projected on an outdoor screen near the “South Gazebo”. **FREE**. Prizes will be offered for the best Halloween costumes. Two movies will be played: “Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein” and the Boris Karloff version of “Frankenstein”. Bring your own chairs or blankets. Light refreshments will be served. If you wish, bring a picnic supper.

Sunday Music at the Park – Sunday, November 4 at 4 PM

The first music event this fall at Willow Waterhole will feature students from Westbury Christian School. Details are still being worked out at press time, but the event will include music theater students singing show tunes. Performance will be at the South Gazebo.

Movie Night: November 30, 7-9:30PM

More details in the November Crier.

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Audubon Society Bird Survey

Saturday, October 20 at 8AM
Meet at The Gathering Place parking lot at
5310 S. Willow

Bring your binoculars and good shoes for walking.

Come prepared to see many species of birds!

Trees for Houston - Tribute Grove

The Willow Waterhole Nature Reserve in Westbury has been chosen as the site of Trees for Houston's Tribute Grove for this year.

A Tribute Grove is a designated area in which donors can donate trees in commemoration of special occasions, honor a friend or family member, or make a memorial gift. Planting will start in the fall; the number of trees in the grove is determined by the number of donations.

If you want to make a donation to Trees for Houston, now is a good time as the trees will be planted in our neighborhood! Check www.Treesforhouston.org for more information.



Thank you to Dylan Hart, from Boy Scout Troop 99, who built a new information kiosk for Willow Waterhole as an Eagle Scout project in September. The new kiosk is located at the Clematis circle near Gasmer.

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Neighborhood and Area News



Westbury 3 September 2012 Yard of the Month Winner

Yard of the Month September Winners

- Parkwest 2:** 5718 Stillbrooke—Thad Simmons & Teena Paez
- Westbury 1:** 5222 Starkridge—Jackie & Wayne Murray
- Westbury 3:** 5706 Capello—James Gaffney
- Westbury 4:** 12342 Nesmith—Barbara Davis
- Westbury South:** 5935 Dellfern—Shirley Herbert

Famous Author coming to Johnston!

Cool Brains! Inprint Reading Series for Young People presents an afternoon with bestselling children's author Lois Lowry on Sunday, Oct. 14, 2012, at Johnston Middle School at 3PM (doors open at 2:30). Admission is free and open to the public. Lowry will make a presentation about her new book *Son*, the fourth and final book in the bestselling *The Giver* series, and will take questions from the audience. A book sale and signing will follow, giving families a chance to visit with the author.

APOLOGY TO RESIDENTS

We apologize to those Westbury residents who mistakenly went to Westbury High School for the annual meeting due to our website listing the wrong location. We are glad you found your way to the meeting! All future meetings will continue to be at Westbury Baptist.

Getting Rid of Graffiti

Please report all graffiti to the Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD) by visiting www.braysoaksmid.org and selecting "Report a Problem". BOMD has a team under contract which abates graffiti by using color-matched paint or power-washing or cleaners. The abatement team documents the graffiti for the police department and will contact private property owners to obtain permission prior to starting work.

Paper Shred Day: October 6

Are you looking for an efficient and low-cost way to securely shred documents and papers? ECHOS will be hosting a Shred Day event on October 6 from 9 AM to noon for a minimum donation of \$10. ECHOS is located at 9600 S. Gessner (near Bissonnet). Donations are tax-deductible, to the extent allowed by law, and 100% of the donations support the programs at ECHOS. The documents will be shredded on-site while you watch. Epiphany Community Health Outreach Services (ECHOS) is a non-profit 501.c.3 organization located in Southwest Houston, operated in a building next to the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany.

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5807 HUMMINGBIRD
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+ GAMERROOM
\$235,000



10806 ASHCROFT
3/3.5/2
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3/2/2 + POOL
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2012 Annual Meeting

This is normally a small column off to the side, but not this month! September was our Annual Meeting that all Westbury residents are encouraged to attend. There were almost 200 residents in attendance and it was wonderful to see so many old friends and to make new acquaintances. We had many great speakers including District K City Council Member Larry Green, CEO and President of METRO George Greanias, City of Houston Director of Solid Waste Harry Hayes, and Sgt. Mitch Hutter of Precinct 5 Constables. Also on hand for the meeting were two of our At Large Council Members, Stephen Costello and Jack Christie. We appreciate their interest in Westbury!

The business portion of the meeting consisted of amending the by-laws and voting in the new 2013 WCC Board. The bylaws of the Westbury Civic Club were amended to comply with recent state requirements related to voting rights and the election process for homeowner associations. The membership, by written ballot, approved the by-law change as proposed. The new 2013 WCC Board was uncontested and is listed on page 2.

A motion was passed to dedicate a tree at the Willow Waterhole in memory of Winston Johnson, the longtime Crier delivery provider, who passed away in September.

The meeting ended with a door prize drawing. We thank Jackie Murray of Weichert Realtors, Susan Brock of Brock and Foster, Tony and Charlsej Porcarello from Coldwell Banker, Pam Schertz, and Plumbco for providing the door prizes. Thanks to Jackie Murray for the water and cookies.



Top: 2012 WCC Annual Meeting
Middle: Line to get into Annual Meeting
Bottom: WCC Office Manager, Jennifer Edmondson



THANK YOU TO ALL THE WESTBURY RESIDENTS WHO CAME TO THE MEETING!

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2012 Annual Meeting

Speakers at the 2012 Annual Meeting

Council Member Larry Green, accompanied by his Chief of Staff, Donald Perkins, our constituent representative, Barbara Hite, and office scheduler, Lynette Arizpuro, spoke about the city bonds and what they would mean to both Westbury and all of Houston. He said he fully supported the Westbury Community Garden and thought it was important to have the seven acres purchased to ensure they would stay greenspace. He encouraged all citizens to call 311, as problems arise, and to pass the assigned case number to either the WCC office or to his office to follow the status of the case. His staff is available to facilitate problems. He also said to ask the 311 agent to call back after the problem is resolved. Once a month, the WCC meets with Neighborhood Protection to get updates on current cases.

CEO and President of METRO, George Greanias, accompanied by Customer Relations Jose Pulido, educated us about what METRO is doing and explained the upcoming referendum. He said METRO wants to provide the best transportation system possible. Earlier in the week Pulido met with us to discuss our future public transportation needs. Do you have a spot in Westbury where you would like a bus shelter? Please let us know.

Director of the City's Solid Waste Dept, Harry Hayes, made an informative presentation on his department's newest cost savings initiative -- consolidated heavy trash days for most areas! We in Westbury are thrilled to now have one single heavy trash day. Beginning in November it will be the second Thursday of every month (November 8).



Top: Council Member Larry Green speaking at WCC Annual Meeting
Middle: George Greanias, CEO METRO speaking to WCC residents
Bottom (L to R): Deputy Addison, WAP Constable and Sgt. Hutter of Pct. 5



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