

Westbury Crier

HIGHLIGHTS:

- White Elephant Sale will be on Sat., Oct 26 from 8AM to Noon
- Free trees available at the White Elephant Sale on Oct 26!
- WCC Board Meeting: Sept 18 at 7PM at Westbury Baptist
- October's heavy trash is Junk Waste. Pick up is October 10 for ALL of Westbury.

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VOLUME 58, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2013

Westbury White Elephant, Community Garage Sale

WHEN: Saturday, October 26, 8AM - Noon

WHERE: Westbury United Methodist Parking Lot (5200 Willowbend)

PARKING: St. John's Presbyterian (5020 W. Bellfort)
Handicapped parking available at the event

RAIN DATE: Saturday, November 2, from 8AM - Noon

Come out and shop over 50 "garage" sales in one location at the Fall Westbury White Elephant Sale! There are always super deals and steals to be had. The Westbury Civic Club provides its residents with two community garage sale events per year since garage sales, estate sales, and yard sales are NOT allowed at residences. Free trees will be available for residents and shoppers!

Booth spaces are still available for sale at the WCC Office. PLEASE CALL 713-723-5437 for more info.

Make Your Voice Count! Vote in the 2013 Election!

October 21: Early Voting begins

November 5: Election Day For more information, see pages 10-11

Thank you
to the following advertisers
who donated DOOR PRIZES for
the annual meeting!
*Jackie Murray, Weichert Realtors
*Susan Brock, Brock & Foster
*Boon Pet Care
*Pam Schertz
*Plumbco



TRICK OR TREE free tree giveaway

at the White Elephant Sale on Saturday, October 26 from 8AM to Noon. For more info, see page 8.

EXCITING UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE WILLOW WATERHOLE

Music in the Park Saturday, October 5, 6:30-8:30PM

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

Halloween Movie Night Saturday, October 19, 8–9:30PM

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

For more information, see page 7.

Westbury Civic Club Board of Directors

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

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Greenspace Beautification	Carlos Mata	wccmaintenance@westburycrier.com
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Security	Leslee Cross	wccsecurity@westburycrier.com
Volunteer Coordinator	VACANT	wccvolunteers@westburycrier.com

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Parkwest 2	VACANT	Parkwest2@westburycrier.com
Parkwest 3	Joe Niles	Parkwest3@westburycrier.com

Westbury Civic Club Office

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

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

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

Email: Westburycc@sbcglobal.net

*The office is closed on all major holidays, weekends (follows HISD calendar)
FREE NOTARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO ALL WESTBURY RESIDENTS

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Westbury Area Patrol Constable Dispatch 281-463-6666

HPD Non-Emergency 713-884-3131

Power Outages (Centerpoint) 713-207-2222

Westbury HPD Storefront 713-726-7126

Platou Community Center 713-726-7107

Poison Control 1-800-764-7661

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

District K Councilmember Larry Green 832-393-3016

District C Councilmember Ellen Cohen 832-393-3004

County Commissioner El Franco Lee 713-755-6111

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

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

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

Stay connected!

Are you one of the 736 likes on our Facebook page, Westbury Houston?

WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM

President's Message

I'd like to thank everyone who came to position being vacated by Larry the annual meeting. It was nice to see a crowd! You can join us any month on the third Wednesday for our regular board meetings. We currently have some board vacancies. If you are interested, come to a meeting and see what is involved. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time on the board and have met so many wonderful people; I think you will, too.

And speaking of serving, Our District K Council member Larry Green and his staff were on hand at our annual meeting and Larry updated us on various city matters. We thank him for his incredible support of our neighborhood. We had four other Council Members in attendance. At-Large CMs Bradford, Costello, Christie are no strangers to Westbury and have supported our efforts to save the Westbury Community Garden. I hope many of you had a chance to speak to them. District D CM Wanda Adams, Clyde Lemons and Coretta Mallet-Fontenot were in attendance. All are running for the HISD Board of Trustee District IX

Marshall. The school board trustee is an important position and I hope you will research the candidates; all of them will be happy to hear your concerns about our Westbury schools and HISD in general. At-large Council Position 3 is open, as Melissa Noriega is term limited, and Rogene Calvert, a candidate for that seat, also spoke.

Voting is so important! Each candidate studies neighborhood voting turnout and results. Westbury has always been a civic minded neighborhood. I urge you to attend a candidates' forum. Let's show the candidates Westbury's greatest strength...its residents! Thanks to all of you who have already

sent in donations to the Friends of Westbury Greenpaces -Westbury Community Garden Acquisition Fund. Your donations are tax deductible and are eligible for matching donations from many of your

employers. I agreed to serve one more year as your president because I think this is such an important mission. On page 18 you can read more about that mission.

In closing, I will ask the question that I opened the annual meeting with: How does it feel to live in one of the top neighborhoods in Houston? (Number 5 on Houstonia magazine's Top 25 Houston neighborhoods list) Pretty darn good is how I answer that! My thanks to all of you who make Westbury such a great place to live. And thank you for allowing me to serve as your president for one more year. Together we can do great things!

Becky Edmondson





Become an important part of Westbury's history. Donate today to save our 7 acre site that is home to the Westbury community garden. Join the thousands of Westbury residents who in the past have donated their hard earned dollars to make a difference from: adding street lights, park and esplanade improvements, and brought quality programming to Westbury youth etc. It's now our turn to really make a difference. Ensure that our 7 acre site stays green space or watch the HHA build a 250 unit federal housing complex on Hillcroft at Greencraig.

Help Save Our 7 Acre Greenspace Attached is my tax-deductible dona-Donations of any tion of \$ amount (small or large) are welcomed and appreciated! **GIVING CATEGORIES** Name: Address: **Friend** \$50 Email: Contributor \$100 Mailing Address for Donation receipt **Sustainer** \$250 (if different) **Sponsor** \$500 Steward \$1000 Benefactor \$5000+

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

Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock

Monday-Thursday 12PM—8PM; Fridays 11AM-7PM Supervisor: Dan Reilly, Daniel.reilly@houstontx.gov or 713-726-7107

Stretching Exercise Class

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

Line Dancing Class

Mondays, 1-2 PM Call 713-726-7107 for more information about this fun, unique workout class.

Nike Aerobic Hybrid Class

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

TOPS:Take Off Pounds Sensibly

Weight loss support group Tues, 5:45-7PM Drop in to preview the program or call Dorothy at 713-723-4441 or Naomi at 713-988-2233

Platou Center Open House October 17 from 1PM to 3PM

Check out all the wonderful programs and activities there are to offer. The public is welcome to attend and there will be free refreshments. All of the clubs and programs will have exhibits to showcase all their creativity and hard work, including quilting, clay working and needle arts projects. Our line dance team will show you how to move those feet and shake those hips!

After School Enrichment

The 2013-2014 After School Enrichment program has begun at the Platou Center. 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.

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



Games

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

Ballroom Dance Class

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

*Portable Projects

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

*MsBeeHaven Quilters

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



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What's Happening in Westbury

Events & Meetings Calendar October 2013

Sat 5	Music in the Park—6:30-8:30PM Willow Waterhole For more information, see page 7
Tues 14	Westbury Community Garden Meeting 6:30PM Platou Community Center— Chimney Rock
Wed 16	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting 8:30AM Salem Lutheran - 4930 W. Bellfort
Wed 16	WCC Board Meeting 7PM- 9PM Westbury Baptist Church Open to all Westbury residents!
Sat 19	Willow Waterhole Monthly Audubon Society Bird Survey 8AM Meet at The Gathering Place parking lot—5310 S. Willow
Sat 19	Willow Waterhole Halloween Movie Night 8-9:30PM Willow Waterhole South Gazebo For more information, see page 7
Mon 21	Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow Speaker: Carl Woodward, Watershed Management
Tues 22	SW PIP (Police Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM Aramco Building—9009 W. Loop South
Sat 26	White Elephant Sale @ Westbury United Methodist 8AM to Noon. 5200 Willowbend More info on Page 1.
Sat 26	Trick or Tree @ Westbury United Methodist 8AM to Noon. 5200 Willowbend Free Tree Giveaway!
Nov 2	Rain Date for White Elephant Sale 8AM to Noon Westbury United Methodist, 5200 Willowbend
Nov 9	Westbury Park Grand Opening Celebration For more info, see November <i>Criers</i>

White Elephant Sale

Saturday, Oct. 26 8AM to Noon



Westbury United Methodist

city of floastoff fleavy flash selfcadic				
Sept.	Tree Waste	Nov.	Tree Waste	
October	Junk Waste	Dec.	Junk Waste	

City of Houston Heavy Trash Schedule

Planning Calendar:

Nov. 9—Westbury Park Grand
Opening Celebration
Nov. 17—Music in the Park

Heavy Trash & Recycling Calendar

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

November 2013			
Thurs	Curbside Recycling		
14	All of Westbury		
Thurs 14	Heavy Trash— TREE WASTE ONLY ALL OF WESTBURY		
FRIDAY	Curbside Recycling		
29	All of Westbury		

Important Trash & Recycling Info

- Trash cans need to be on curb by 7AM Thursday
- Trash cans must be removed by 10PM Thursday
- Trash cans must be placed at least 3 feet apart
- Trash cans must be stored out of sight.
- Tard waste MUST be in correct biodegradable bags
- Heavy trash can go out at 6PM the Friday before pick-up
- MYARD WASTE is not considered tree waste. It is collected on regular Thursday trash day
- Call 311 for all trash guestions and complaints
- Mearby Trash Depositories and Recycling Centers:

 SW Trash Depository/Recycling Ctr -10785 SW Frwy
 Hours: Wed.—Sun. 9AM to 6PM; Accepts Junk Waste,
 Tree Waste & Recyclables. Current utility bill needed.

 Environmental Service Center 11500 S. Post Oak
 Hours: Tues/Wed 9AM-3PM; 2nd Sat 9AM-1PM. Accepts
 Hazardous Household Waste & Electronic Waste.
- Refer to www.westburycrier.com or www.houstontx.gov for more trash and recycling information

Harvest Moon Festival

The Willow Waterhole hosted its Annual Harvest Moon Festival on Saturday September 21. It was a great success!

Weather nearly caused this year's festival to be cancelled but thankfully the weather lifted and it was a beautiful evening. There were an estimated 80 people in attendance.

The hayride was pulled by two gorgeous Clydesdales, driven by an awesome team, and followed alongside by their pup. With lights strung alongside the wagon, they took load after load of happy folks on a great tour of the park well past sunset. The trackless train went well into the night as well, running on the sidewalk around the gazebo to the delight of young and old alike.

Honey's Snoballs knocked it out of the park with their awesome Snoballs, and brought tamales and hotdogs too! There was painting faces of the youngsters in the gazebo, and offered free popcorn and water to the masses.

As the sun fell, the movie on the big screen was "Fly Away Home". Many people stayed to enjoy the inspiring show.



Presented By:



Willow Waterhole
Greenspace Conservancy





Don't miss next year's Harvest Moon Festival! It was a blast for the whole family!



Mini Train Ride around the gazebo



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Or contact us today: booncare@gmail.com or 713.936.2623

Willow Waterhole Upcoming Events

Music in the Park

This popular FREE event is back!

Sat., October 5, 6:30-8:30PM

Music in the park starts with an evening with Ricardo Sweatt Rodriguez, an internationally acclaimed Acoustic Fusion Solo Guitarist. Bring the kids and enjoy an nice evening at the Willow Waterhole

Sun., November 17, 4-6PM

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

Audubon Society Bird Survey

Saturday, October 19 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!

WWW.WWGC.ORG



Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy

Sponsored By:



Parking for all events will be available thru the Dryad entrance next to Westbury Little League behind Westbury High School. For updates on weather and other info, Like the their Facebook page, Willow Waterhole or go to wwgc.org

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

Kids and adults will enjoy a movie projected onto a huge outdoor screen! **FREE.** Prizes will be awarded for the best Halloween costumes. Bring your own chairs and blankets. Popcorn and water will be provided.

This is the third year for this great event. Bring the whole family and enjoy a wonderful night at the Willow Waterhole relaxing watching a movie and eating popcorn! Don't forget to wear your Halloween costumes!





Be Part of The Willow Waterhole Greenspace 2013 Calender of Events Willow Waterhole Hauston Audution Society - Willow Waterhole Bird Survey Volunteer □ Volunteer □ Member □ Sponsor - 3rd Saturday of the month - Where: Gathering Place on S. Willow Help with a project - Next Survey: Sat 7am Aug 17, 2013 Donation of time Name: _____ Harvest Moon Fest - Sat Sept 21 - Horse-drawn Hayride, Mintature Train, Evening Member Stroll, Free goodons, cookies, bottled water City: _____ State: ___ Zip_____ A small donation - MOVIE Ry Me Home - DINNER: Tejano Salsa and Honey's Snowballs and stay abreast Phone: Music in the Park - Sat Oct 5, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm with current - An evening with Ricardo Sweatt Rodnesez activities/events · Acoustic Fusion Spin Guitar Hallowern More Night Please complete your commitment form and Sponsor - Sat Oct 19 from 8 to 9:30 pm send your tax-deductible contribution to: Provide a - Movie and Costume Contest Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy gift/endowment to Music is the Park: Al's All-Stars PO Box 35676 - Sun Nev 17, from 4 to 5 om help implement the Houston, Texas 77235-5676 - All Campbell hand-picked band from local magnet vision https://www.facebook.com/willowwaterhole_music.pregrams www.WWGC.org

TRICK or TREE



CTOBER



Trick or Tree 2010

Mark your calendars for **October 26** as the WCC will be hosting its free tree giveaway again! The giveaway will be held at the **White Elephant Sale** at **Westbury United Methodist** from **8AM to Noon**.

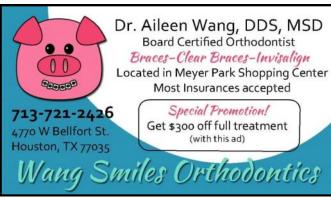
Many thanks to Trees for Houston for making this popular event possible again. The WCC has given away over 3,500 trees since 2006.

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

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



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Westbury Residents = Good Neighbors

Are You a Good Neighbor?

Many calls the WCC office receives are from frustrated neighbors at their wit's end. Chances are their neighbor isn't even aware of the problem. Most of us are busy and distracted and don't realize that our actions affect those around us. A little courtesy goes a long way in making good neighbors. Smile, find a reason to chat with your neighbor, attend a block party, host a Neighborhood Night Out event, or just give a big old wave to your neighbors. Many of these problems can be resolved easily. Please read through this list of common problems!

Barking dogs. Does your dog bark when you leave home? Judging by the number of barking dog complaint calls, the answer might be yes. Be a good neighbor, visit with your neighbors and ask them to let you know if your dog disturbs them.

Loud music. Did you know your detached garage is usually only a few feet from your neighbor's master bedroom window? Do you work in the garage with your music on, do you jam on your guitar, or do you like to exercise in the garage to some great rock and roll? Yes, many of us do and unbeknownst to us our neighbor is trying to nap or get a little one to sleep. Ask your neighbor to let you know if you are disturbing them.

Visible trash. Your trash cans, recycling bins and other trash must be stored out of sight per city ordinance. Your trash cans may be driving your neighbor crazy. Every time they look out their window or come out their front door, they see your trash receptacles in violation of the law. It just takes just a little effort to store them out of sight -- an effort that your neighbor will really appreciate.

Friendliness. These days when so many of us seem connected because of social media, it is hard to imagine people living in isolation, but they do. Please nod or smile or give a little wave to your neighbor. Small acts of kindness or good cheer only take a moment and can do wonders to create that neighborly feeling.

Calling 311 Could Save a Life "Grade Separation" Street Problems

A concerned resident, DJ Sloan, attended the WCC annual meeting and brought up an excellent point. If your street has a "grade separation" (where one lane is several inches higher than the other), please report it to 311 for repair since this situation can be unsafe for 2-wheeled vehicles switching lanes or for pedestrians crossing a street.

As an example of a "grade separation" problem, the west lane of Hillcroft heading north from Ludington is fully four inches higher than the east lane. A motorcycle rider changing lanes from the lower lane to the higher lane might find the front wheel becomes trapped, with subsequent loss of control which might cause serious injury. Bike riders on side streets with uneven lanes are at risk, too. Also, pedestrians crossing a street may trip over a grade separation, which has been reported at Landsdowne and Ludington according to a source at Anderson Elementary.

A recent edition of the daily *Houston Chronicle* reports an incident in which poor street condition contributed to a bicycle rider's spill into the path of a moving car. In the article, Alvin Wright, <u>public</u> information officer with the Houston Public Works & Engineering Department, said that using 311 is the best way to call attention to a road in need of repair. "Houston 311 can accommodate requests in dozens of categories, including street maintenance and repairs. These service requests then go on the record, Wright said, and can be used to make a case for spending money on road projects."

Reporting problems to 311 will help prioritize repairs to our local streets and will help resolve a situation before it intensifies further.

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Voter ID Will Be Required to Vote in Election

VOTER ID WILL BE REQUIRED TO VOTE IN THE 2013 ELECTION

- **1.** The new photo identification requirement is effective immediately.
- **2.** A voter will be required to show one of the following forms of photo identification at the polling location before the voter will be permitted to cast a vote.
- Texas driver license issued by the (DPS)
- Texas Election ID Certificate issued by DPS
- Texas personal identification card issued by DPS
- Texas concealed handgun license issued by DPS
- U.S. military ID card with photograph
- U.S. citizenship certificate with photograph
- United States passport

3. My ID is expired. Will it still work?

With the exception of the U.S. citizenship certificate, the identification must be current or have expired no more than 60 days before being presented for voter qualification at the polling place.

4. A **permanent exemption** is available for voters with documented disabilities. Voters with a disability may apply with the county voter registrar for a permanent exemption. Affidavits are available for voters who have a consistent religious objection to being photographed and for voters who do not have any photo identification as a result of certain natural disasters as declared by the President of the United States or the Texas Governor within 45 days of the day the ballot was cast.

- **5.** Election officials will review the ID and if a name is "substantially similar" to the name on their list of registered voters, you will still be able to vote, but you will also have to submit an affidavit stating that you are the same person on the list of registered voters.
- **6**. If a voter does not present proper identification, the voter will still be permitted to vote provisionally. The voter will have (six) 6 days to present proper identification to the county voter registrar for the voter's ballot to be accepted.

For more information visit www.harrisvotes.org or call The Election Information Line (713) 755-6965.





Election

What is on the ballot?

State constitutional amendments, City of Houston elections, Astrodome referendum and HISD Trustee elections. Although HCC is holding trustee elections, it seems that the 2 trustees who represent the Westbury area are not up for election during this election cycle.

Early Voting Hours of Operation

October 21-October 25: 8AM - 4:30PM

October 26: 7AM - 7PM October 27: 1PM - 6PM

October 28-November 1: 7AM - 7PM

Some Early Voting Locations

SWHouston: Bayland Park Community Center at

6400 Bissonnet, 77074

Main Office: Harris County Administration Bldg at

1001 Preston, 1st Floor, 77002

Astrodome Area: Fiesta Mart, Inc. at 8130 Kirby Drive,

77054

Galleria: Harris County Public Health Environmental

Services at 2223 West Loop South, 77027

Where do I vote on the regular election day,

November 5? At the time this newsletter went to print, many of the precinct polling locations were not

yet defined.

VOTE, VOTE, VOTE!







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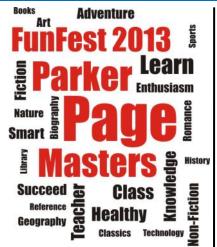
Great References

Parker Elementary News and Events

FunFest 2013 Parker Page Masters

Saturday, Oct. 19 2-6PM

This year's festivities will be dedicated to Ms. Susan Shafer, Parker's illustrious librarian, and all of her Shafer "relatives", who visit to instruct students in the



use of the library and the literary adventures to be found in books. The theme this year will be Page Masters, the Joy of Reading Books!

FunFest attractions will include games, a petting zoo, train, rock wall, Super Hero Alley, Pinkalicious Glam Tent, and the ever popular dunking booth. Carnival food will be available including funnel cakes, turkey legs, roasted corn, Honey's Snowballs, and cotton candy.

For more information, contact Gigi Starbuck, FunFest PTO Chairperson via Parker Elementary, 713 726 3634.

Annual POPS Concert & Book Fair

Thursday November 7th

Parker Elementary will feature talented dads, granddads, brothers, and uncles in their Annual POPS Concert on Thursday evening November 7th in the Parker Cafeteria. Come enjoy the entertainment, have dinner, and visit with your neighbors. Dinner will be served starting at 5:30 PM.

We also invite you to come browse at our school Book Fair. A Scholastic Book Fair will be open during the entire evening in the Mini-Gym. Proceeds from the dinner and book fair will benefit the Parker library and Parker PTO activities. **More details will follow in the November** *Crier*.



Buddies For Kids

WHAT IS IT?

As a child's buddy, you will be called to provide consistent support, guidance, and concrete help to a child who is in need of a positive role model. Children 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. If you are interested in investing in kids, there are opportunities to be a buddy at Parker Elementary School.

WHAT DO BUDDIES DO?

Each child is a little different and there is a required orientation/ training session in order to serve as a buddy. However, it is asked that you dedicate 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 that has been arranged with your child's teacher.

READY TO INVEST IN A CHILD?

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. This takes about 2 minutes to fill out. Once you have filled out the on-line form, simply take your driver's license to the receptionist at Parker Elementary and she will scan it for approval.

QUESTIONS?

Parker Elementary is located at 10626 Atwell (near Chimney Rock and Willowbend intersection). Start by contacting Michelle Vanderwater at mvanderwater@att.net and completing the HISD background check mentioned above. The training/orientation-date will be in early October and the pizza kick-off party will follow soon thereafter.

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2013 Dues Form

Thank You *Please send **2013 Westbury Civic Club Dues** this form in with Name(s) your payment Address Home Phone Work Cell Payments! **Westbury Civic Club Membership \$40** \$ Make checks payable to: Westbury Civic Club, Inc. **\$25** \$ **Greenspace Beautification** Mail to: P.O. Box 975182 **\$230** \$ **Westbury Area Patrol** Dallas, TX 75397-5182 Online payment: paypal.com—Send Money to westburycc@sbcglobal.net Make sure to include your **\$295** \$ Subtotal **Additional Contributions: Westbury Civic Club** address or account number **Greenspace Beautification** \$ Sending multiple payments? Circle your payment choice \$ **Westbury Area Patrol** 2 payment of \$147.50 **Westbury HPD Storefront** \$ 3 payments of 98.34 **Call the office for more payment Total \$ options or questions

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

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

In honor of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, join us at the following Memorial Hermann events:

Beneath the Surface

 $Co-sponsored\ by\ Memorial\ Hermann\ Sugar\ Land\ and\ Memorial\ Hermann\ Southwest\ Hospitals$

Friday, October 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

First Colony Mall (Main Entrance)

Take a walk through the AmeriBreasts^a exhibit, the world's only walk-through tour of the human breast. The inflatable display inside features large representations of noncancerous lumps, inflammatory breast cancer stages, milk ducts, blood vessels and lymph nodes. Plus, visit with our affiliated breast experts and genetic counselor, enjoy complimentary bra fittings from SOMA, and more.

Catwalk for the Cause

Saturday, October 26 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Houston Galleria (First Floor, Galleria 4)

Join us in a celebration of life at "Catwalk for the Cause," a fashion show featuring courageous cancer survivors and their caregivers. You will also have the opportunity to visit with our affiliated breast experts and learn tips for early detection, prevention and proper screening techniques, including the latest screening technology.

memorialhermann.org/southwest



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Neighborhood Specialist

Neighborhood & Area News

Platou Open House

The Platou Community
Center is located in the
heart of the Westbury
community at 11655 Chimney Rock Road. They would
love for you to come to their
Open House on October
17th from 1PM to 3PM and
check out all the wonderful
programs and activities
there are to offer. The
public is welcome to attend
and there will be free
refreshments.

All of the clubs and programs will have exhibits to showcase all their creativity and hard work, including quilting, clay working and needle arts projects. Our line dance team will show you how to move those feet and shake those hips!

If you have any questions, please call the Platou Center at 713-726-7107 and ask for Dan Reilly. We also invite you to Like us on Facebook.

Westbury High School Homecoming Parade October 19 from 10 – 11:30 AM

The WHS homecoming parade traditionally winds its way through our neighborhood from Parker Elementary to WHS on the day of the homecoming football game. Parade begins on Atwell at Briarbend, proceeds south on Atwell, west on Spellman, south on Renwick, east on W. Belfort south on Burdine continues south on Chimney Rock, and concludes on Chimney Rock at Gasmer Dr. Staging at Parker Elementary and disbanding in Westbury High School parking lot.

Paper Shred Day: October 5

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 5 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. Certificates of destruction are issued immediately, if desired. 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.

WHS Baseball Team Annual Bowl-A-Thon

On Sunday, October 27, from 4:30PM-7:30PM the Rebels will hold their 4th Annual Rebel Baseball Bowl-A-Thon fundraiser at Palace Lanes in Bellaire. Bring your family and friends and join us for our first fundraiser of the year! For a donation of \$20 per person, enjoy 1.5 hours of bowling with shoe rental included. LANE SPONSORSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR BUSINESS! All donations are used to help pay for equipment HISD no longer provides funding for. Community support is vital to our program. We appreciate you! Along with Lane Sponsorships, field advertisement is also available. General donations accepted throughout the year. For More Info Contact: Kenneth Clavon Macyclavon@gmail.com or Desiree Slack ddslack@att.net. Donations can be mailed to: Westbury HS Baseball Booster Club, P.O. Box 311101 Houston, TX 77231 Westbury High School Baseball Booster Club is a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization

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Community Partner: Keep Houston Beautiful

Our community partner featured this month is Keep Houston Beautiful (KHB). KHB is the city's leading organization in beautification, litter reduction and recycling education. For over 30 years, Keep Houston Beautiful has been educating and empowering individuals to take greater responsibility for beautifying and enhancing Houston's environment. Their successes have created a cleaner and healthier city for all Houstonians.

We, in Westbury, are a prime example of their successes. In late 2004, we kicked off our "Working on Westbury" project and contacted KHB about possible grants. We were the recipient of a 2006 KHB grant which mobilized a green revolution in Westbury. That \$2,500 grant turned into \$40,000 worth of improvements over 3 work days on the two mile stretch of Hillcroft which runs through Westbury. Hundreds of trees were mulched and a hundred trees were planted. Invasive Chinese tallow trees were removed, and a rain garden and a mulch trail were created

Keep Houston Beautiful is a 501 (c) 3, non-profit organization. It is governed by a 36-member commission which is supported by a small professional staff. Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by City Council. The Board members serve on one of six committees: Executive Committee, Council District Commissioners Committee, Environmental Education Committee, Cleanup/Beautification Committee, Marketing/Communications Committee, and the Recognition

Committee. The Board of Directors meets bi-monthly, and each committee meets as needed. WCC President **Becky Edmondson** was recently appointed to this commission as the representative for District K.

Keep Houston Beautiful is at the forefront of enlightening the public. From instructing businesses on how to buy recycled products to educating community volunteers, KHB has reached out to tens of thousands of individuals. The Keep Houston Beautiful youth programs are also valued by numerous teachers throughout the Houston area who use KHB's Waste-In-Place environmental curriculum guide. These programs in conjunction with KHB publications help guide individuals and businesses through a variety of beautification projects. Keep Houston Beautiful offers the information and resources to get the job done.

When **Westbury** wanted to start a community garden, we contacted KHB in October of 2009 for advice. The **Westbury Community Garden** was a reality by March of 2010! KHB introduced us to partners Keep America Beautiful, Scotts Miracle-Gro, the Houston Solid Waste Department, and many more.

KHB shines a light on the true leaders and projects that help make Houston a cleaner and more beautiful city. Exemplary projects obtain recognition through the annual Mayor's Proud Partners Awards Luncheon. The Westbury area has received many

awards (see page 17). This year the Westbury Civic Club, along with the WAIC and the Westbury Super Neighborhood, are receiving a Proud Partner award for our "Keep Westbury Beautiful" campaign. Our initial award in 2006 was for the "Working on Westbury" campaign and after 8 years of work we felt that the campaign had morphed from "working" to "keeping" Westbury Beautiful. Westbury or a Westbury individual has been recognized by KHB every single year for the last 5 years! We thank the leaders of the many projects that go on year round to help us all Keep Westbury Beautiful: Dabney Kennedy and Cindy Chapman (Westbury Area Improvement Corporation), Marcia Hartman (Westbury Community Garden), Hazel Potvin (Friends of Chimney Rock Park), Bill Burhans (Friends of Westbury Greenspaces), Kat Elder (Westbury butterfly garden), Russell Shexnayder (Willow Waterhole), Rita Woodward (Friends of Westbury High School), and our extraordinary WCC Director of Maintenance and Beautification -Carlos Mata. Each of these leaders has an army of volunteers and we salute you all! If you have ever planted a tree, picked up litter, mailed in your greenspace beautification dues, pulled weeds, spread mulch, planted flowers, pulled more weeds, tended roses on the esplanades; worked in the community garden; worked in the rain garden or wildflower beds; or carried a bucket of water to a thirsty tree during the drought; this award goes to





Community Partner: Keep Houston Beautiful

Local Awards from Keep Houston Beautiful

1994 Friends of Westbury High School

2005 Parker Elementary

2006 Westbury Civic Club - the "Working on Westbury" project

2009 Carlos Mata (Individual award) for his efforts on a West Bellfort beautification project. Carlos is now the WCC Director of Greenspace Beautification.

2010 Westbury Civic Club for the Westbury Community Garden project (pictured below)

2010 Westbury Civic Club wins National 1st place award from Keep America Beautiful for the Westbury Community Garden project





2011 Westbury "Green Team" (the Beautification Committee of the Westbury Civic Club plus members of the Westbury Garden Club) - beautification of parks and esplanades in Westbury

2012 Hazel Potvin (Individual award) – for her work on projects sponsored by the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) and the Friends of Chimney Rock Park. Hazel has served as WCC Director of Volunteers and WCC Director of Greenspace Beautification in the past and is a founding member of the Westbury "Green Team".

2013 Westbury Civic Cub, WAIC, & Westbury SuperNeighborhood #37 - the "Keep Westbury Beautiful" project

Photo from left to right: Cindy Chapman, Becky Edmondson, and Edith Smith at the 2010 Award Luncheon.

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Westbury Greenspaces



September Yard of the Month Winners Parkwest 1

5511 Briarbend - Kriss and Mike Budno

Parkwest 2

5818 Sanford - Emilia and Manuel Heredia

Parkwest 3

5918 Beaudry - Jane Falk

Westbury 1

5102 Stillbrooke - Granny Oxford and Cathy Crisp

Westbury 2

5450 Briarbend - Jimmy & Thereze Hester

Westbury 3

11510 Ashcroft - Tiny and Donna Roberts

Westbury 4

5607 Dawnridge - Westbury Resident

Westbury South

5707 Greencraig - Jean Speights

Westbury Community Garden Outreach Programs

The Westbury Community Garden uses fruit, vegetable, and habitat gardens to bring the entire community together and improve the health, nutrition and quality of life for Westbury residents. The garden serves to educate adults and children about good nutrition and ecology, strengthens community spirit, provides organic food and serves as a gathering place for community events. Our slogan is "Growing Community through Gardening." This is more than just a mission statement. The garden and its outreach programs are something Westbury residents can all be proud of. The WCG outreach programs serve all of Westbury and also impact many others, as described below:

* Tours and Classes: Hundreds, if not thousands of people have been educated at the WCG over these past 3 years, ranging in age and skill from school groups to adult classes. Visitors can learn how to compost, collect rainwater, and start their own gardens at home.

- * Foerster Elementary In September of 2013, WCG gardener volunteers worked to clear weedy vegetable beds at nearby Foerster. The WCG also provided sweet potato plants to grow in the school beds over the summer.
- * Westbury High School a Special Needs teacher from WHS brings his autistic students to the WCG site to stay in touch with nature and food. The WCG is also advising the teacher about bringing gardening to the WHS campus.
- * Urban Harvest teaches classes at the WCG at the June Holly Leadership Houston pavilion.
- * Plant it Forward Farms a farm-to -market program which trains refugees as organic farmers, will be sponsoring two graduates of its program onto large plots
- * Trees for Houston The WCC and WCG are working with "Trees for Houston" to start our very own tree farm at the WCG so that we grow trees for Westbury parks, esplanades, and even for homeowners.
- * Future Farmer's Stand Last but not least, a dream is to have a Farmer's Stand located on the site.



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Save Our 7 Acre Greenspace From Becoming

A Federal Housing Complex

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

need to be acquired from the HHA and that means it is time to start fundraising.

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

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

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

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

We want to
Other plans
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the land. The

Possible Future if HHA

Possible Future if HHA retains the property

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Help Save Our 7 Acre Greenspace

77035. Checks should be made payable to: WAIC-WCG; with a

notation in the memo line - Westbury Community Garden.

Attached is my tax-deductible	Donations of any		
donation of \$	amount (small or large)		
	are welcom	ed and	
	appreciated!		
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Email:	Contributor	\$100	
Mailing Address for Donation receipt	Sustainer	\$250	
(if different)	Sponsor	\$500	
	Steward	\$1000	
	Benefactor	\$5000+	

Checks should be made payable to WAIC – WCG. Send donations to the Westbury Civic Club,

5322 W. Bellfort St., Suite 107, Houston, TX 77035

Crime/Security

Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37* 30 days preceding September 25, 2013

	Single- Family Home	Apt/ Condo	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	10	2	0	0	12
Theft	15	12	8	4	39
Auto Theft	3	3	0	0	6
Robbery	1	0	2	2	5
Assault	0	1	0	1	2
Rape	0	0	0	1	1
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	29	18	10	8	65

^{*}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 9/25/13)

Block	Street	Crime
5800	Alvarado	Robbery
5200	Arboles	Auto Theft
5500	Arboles	Theft
10600	Atwell	Theft
5900	Beaudry	Theft
5900	Benning	Theft
5700	Belrose	Theft
11500	Braewick	Theft
12000	Braewick	Burglary
11100	Burdine	Theft
12100	Burdine	Burglary
11100	Cedarhurst	Burglary
5300	Creekbend	Burglary
5700	Effingham	Theft
12300	Landsdowne	Theft
6000	Lattimer	Theft
5600	Ludington	Burglary
5800	Ludington	Burglary
5500	McKnight	Theft
12300	Nesmith	Theft
5600	Sanford	Theft
5900	Sanford	Burglary
5400	Spellman	Burglary
5800	W. Airport	Auto Theft
5700	W Bellfort	Auto Theft
5900	W Bellfort x3	Theft
5000	Willowbend	Burglary
5800	Willowbend	Burglary



WAP **Constable Dispatch** 281-463-6666 Westbury **HPD Storefront** 713-726-7126 **HPD Non-Emergency** 713-884-3131

Security Updates and Information



Rational Night Out was on October 1. Please send any pictures of your parties to the civic club office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net for the next Crier edition.



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



Www.nextdoor.com is a resource for Westbury residents. It is a secure site run NOT run by the WCC. It is a good tool for sharing security information among neighbors.

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





Westbury Park Celebration: Coming Soon

Westbury Park Playground Installation

The new Westbury Park playground improvements are nearing completion. It is expected the playground equipment will be installed in October. A new pavilion, concrete walkways, additional landscaping and expanded drainage are already in place. Walk or drive by to see the progress, you will be very impressed!

Expect to see more details in next month's *Crier* about a planned Westbury Park & Playground Grand Opening Celebration and Community Day. Mark your calendar for this on **November 9th**. There will be a ribbon cutting, recognition of major donors, and fun activities for the whole family.

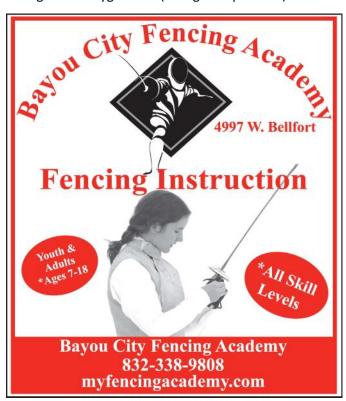




Westbury Park NEW Picnic Pavilion



Westbury Park Playground 3D Renderings (final product installed subject to change): Left is the Ages 5-12 Playground and Above is the Ages 2-5 Playground. (Swings not pictured)



2013 Annual Meeting Summary

The Annual WCC Membership meeting was held at Westbury Baptist Church at 7PM on September 18, 2013. A meet and greet session started at 6:30 PM. Over 50 residents attended and enjoyed cookies and bottled water, compliments of Jackie Murray from Weichert Realty. Jennifer Edmondson, WCC Office Manager, developed a new check-in system organized by street address for residents to sign in to receive a ballot and to verify their contact information.



Westbury Park Playground: Bill Burhans provided an update on the new playground equipment that is scheduled to be installed in October. The "Friends of Westbury Greenspaces" have been raising money to pay for shade sails for the playground equipment, which is not provided by the city. Although the "Friends" thought they had raised sufficient funds, the actual cost was higher than the city estimate. Burhans noted that payment is needed soon so that the shade protection can be installed at or around the same time that the playground is installed. He also suggested that a donor recognition plaque and a Celebration event be funded by the WCC. A motion by Bill Burhans for the WCC to contribute UP TO \$5,000 for this project was approved unanimously by the membership.

Security: Sergeant Mitch Hutter, from Harris County Constable Precinct 5, gave a security update. He reminded residents to lock car doors and not to store valuables in cars. Residents can contact him for a free home security check. Security Director Leslee Cross introduced WAP Deputy Vo.

Board Election: PW3 Director Joe Niles presented the list of candidates for the upcoming WCC board, as listed in the September *Crier*. Since there were no contested races, the candidates were approved by acclamation.

Guest Speaker:

District K CouncilMember Larry Green: Streets: CM Larry Green announced that some streets in W1 and W2 are getting scraped and re-asphalted in 2014. Many roads in Westbury remain to be fixed. Hillcroft, Ludington and Willowbend are high on the priority list for the Westbury area. He also noted that US90A will soon be getting streetlights and a median barrier to prevent vehicles from straying into oncoming traffic.

Westbury Square – CM Larry Green said that the property owner is fighting condemnation and has appealed all the way to the Texas Supreme Court. The City has filed a brief opposing the court hearing his case. If the Supreme Court denies his appeal hearing, then the city can start condemnation proceedings in a couple of months.

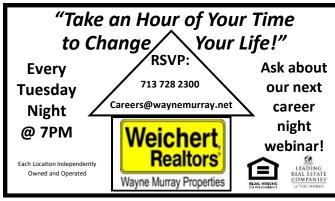
"Westbury Centerette"- (the vacant or rundown buildings near the NE corner of Chimney Rock at West Bellfort) WCC President Becky Edmondson told CM Larry Green that the WCC and the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) had met with the new owners. Progress has been made with help from the city's 311 inspectors. The WCC has advised the owners to post a "No Trespass" affidavit with HPD to keep the skateboarders and vandals off the property. The owners are seeking a national retailer for the site and plan to demolish the existing buildings.

Other Speakers from City Council: We had 3 At-Large CM at our annual meeting. CM Brad Bradford, CM Stephen Costello, and CM Jack Christie each spoke briefly and all 3 are supportive of our position to preserve the Westbury Community Garden land as a greenspace. Rogene Calvert, a candidate for At-Large 3, spoke about her qualifications and visions for Houston. We had a total of FIVE CMs at our annual meeting! (CM Larry Green, CM Brad Bradford, CM Stephen Costello, CM Jack Christie, and CM Wanda Adams)

HISD School Board: The WCC invited the 3 candidates for HISD School Board Trustee-District 9, which represents most Westbury residents. CM Wanda Adams, Coretta Mallet-Fontenot, and Clyde Lemons all spoke about their qualifications and what they would bring to the HISD board.

Continued, on Page 23







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2013 Annual Meeting Summary

Westbury Community Garden: WCC President Becky Edmondson noted that the Houston Housing Authority (HHA) has indicated it is willing to sell the land. If the HHA keeps the site, then they will build a federal housing complex there. We have to come up with an estimated \$500,000 or more to purchase the 7 acres. Negotiations are ongoing.

Hidden Trash Can Contest: Six winners were announced, and each will receive a Home Depot gift card. 1st place to JH Henderson, a Spellman resident since 1963, who not only built one for himself but one his neighbor. 2nd place James B. Gaffney on Capello 3rd place David B. Gillentine on Atwell 4th place Ray Mora on Benning 5th place Audra Diggs on Gaymoor 6th place Marcia Livingston on Portal

Community Relations: Director Cindy Chapman reviewed what our 510c3 non-profit partner, the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC), does for the neighborhood, as she has recently stepped up to become Acting President of the WAIC. She is also on the board of the Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD), an officer on the board of Southwest Houston 2000, and an officer on the board of the SuperNeighborhood Alliance (SNA).

ByLaw Changes: Community Relations Director Cindy Chapman led a review of the proposed WCC By-law changes and a spirited discussion followed. The proposed changes had been printed in the September 2013 newsletter and summarized in the August newsletter. Ballots were distributed at check- in and also submitted by absentee ballot. Ballots were tabulated by volunteers Lucy

> McLaughlin and Becky Downs. The final tally was 47 FOR and 16 against. The bylaws changes were

APPROVED.

Door Prizes: Wonderful door prizes were distributed to very thankful attendees! We thank **Jackie Murray**, **Susan Brock**, **Boon Pet Care**, **Pam Schertz** and **Plumbco** for their donations.

Lach Mullen won a stepladder from Jackie Murray. Virginia Hill won a tool set from Jackie Murray. Larry Ellis won a Kohl's gift card from Jackie Murray. Lisa Turner won a Home Depot gift card from Jackie Murray. Wally Davenport won a Giuliani's restaurant gift card from Jackie Murray. Tom Brown won an Outback gift card from Susan Brock. Sheri Chilivitis won a Cheesecake Factory gift card from Susan Brock. Seneca Huckaby won a Fuddrucker's gift card from Jackie Murray. Linda Hempling won the Boon Pet Care gift certificate. Donna Robert won the Mary Kay Gift basket donated by Pam Schertz. Eva Quearry won the large gift basket donated by Jackie Murray. All residents were encouraged to take a Westbury Civic Club cup, pen, and magnet clip (great for holding the Crier turned to the calendar page).







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