



# Westbury Crier

VOLUME 58, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2013

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- Westbury Park Grand Opening Celebration, Saturday, November 9, 11AM-2PM
- WCC Board Meeting: November 20 at 7PM at Westbury Baptist
- November's heavy trash is Tree Waste Only. Pick up is November 14 for ALL of Westbury.

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## Westbury Park Grand Opening Celebration

Come celebrate the completion of the new playground and other improvements to Westbury Park! The \$375,000 project was jointly funded by the City of Houston and the Houston Parks Board. Westbury residents and area businesses contributed almost \$25,000 that paid for the shade sail structures installed over the playground equipment.

In addition to the new playground equipment, a new pavilion was built with four picnic tables. A new water fountain, benches, and picnic tables were installed. Beautiful new landscaping outlines the new sidewalks around part of the playground and pavilion area.

Everyone is invited to the Grand Opening Celebration on **Saturday, November 9 from 11AM to 2PM.** The event is sponsored by the Westbury Civic Club and the Mayor's Special Events office.

### Events and Activities from 11AM to 2PM.

- \*Ribbon cutting and recognition of major contributors
- \*Musical performances by Parker Elementary, Johnston Middle, and Westbury High School
- \*Outback Steakhouse selling hamburgers, chips and drinks
- \*Honey's Snoballs selling snowcones, hot dogs, and drinks
- \*Children's games, face painting and soccer demos
- \*Appearances by the HFD Westbury Station 48, HPD Mounted Patrol, HPD Westbury Storefront officers, and Pct. 5 Constables
- \*Westbury Community Garden plant and produce sale
- \*Meet and Greet with WCC Board members and local city officials.

Bring your whole family, watch the children enjoy the new playground, have a picnic, meet community leaders, and participate in all the fun! Be sure to bring folding chairs or blankets.



## GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

### WHEN:

November 9, from 11AM to 2PM

### WHERE:

Westbury Park  
(5600 Stillbrooke, 77096)  
Next to Parker Elementary

### PARKING:

Surrounding streets



**Magnet Program DeFunded at Westbury High School**  
read more on page 16.

**November 5: Election Day**  
For more information, see pages 8 & 9  
**BRING YOUR PHOTO I.D.**

**Daylight Savings Time Ends**  
**2AM November 3**

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Westbury Civic Club, Inc  
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Edited by:  
WCC Publication Committee  
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## Westbury Civic Club Board of Directors

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

## Section Directors

Westbury 1	Sylvia Rendon	Westbury1@westburycrier.com
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Westbury 3	Robert Montgomery	Westbury3E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 3	Charlsey Porcarello	Westbury3W@westburycrier.com
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Westbury 4	Vicki Eldridge	Westbury4W@westburycrier.com
Westbury 5	Virginia Livingston	Westbury5E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 5	Genie Mitchell	Westbury5W@westburycrier.com
Westbury South	Robert Capps	Westburysouth@westburycrier.com
Parkwest 1	William Grimsinger	Parkwest1@westburycrier.com
Parkwest 2	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 769  
likes on our Facebook  
page, Westbury Houston?

# WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM

# President's Message

Cooler temperatures and rain...two things I am thankful for as we head into November. October was a banner month for Westbury. National Night Out was a big success (article on page 17) and I was sorry to have been out of town and missed all the festivities. The Willow Waterhole hosted two great evening events with fun for all whole family (page 6-7 ). Our White Elephant Sale and Trick or Tree event are upcoming as I write this article. November will bring more great community events. The Willow Waterhole will have another program on Nov 17 (pg 7) . The long awaited Westbury Park grand opening will be November 9th. I hope all of you will come out for this event to show the City and our elected officials how appreciative we are of this investment in our neighborhood.

I want to urge all of you to vote on Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Who we elect into office really does make a difference. I have been so pleased with our representation in our new City Council District K and CM Larry Green has no opposition. Almost as important as our own Council person are the 5 at-large positions. In our endeavors to Save the Westbury Community Garden, CM C.O. "Brad" Bradford, CM Stephen Costello and

CM Jack Christie visited the garden and wrote letters of support as did CM Andrew Burks. CM Jack Christie also came out and worked at the community garden during our Keep Westbury Beautiful day. We do appreciate their support.

The position of School Board trustee for our area is also on the ballot. The state of our HISD schools is of utmost importance to Westbury. I urge all of you to research the three candidates and speak to them. We, the WCC and WAIC, are currently researching the data, formulating our position and working up our strategy in regards to HISD cutting Westbury's magnet program. This was very disheartening news to all of us who have been working hard to make Westbury a neighborhood school of choice (page 16).

For all the races and propositions on this year's ballot, The League of Women Voters has excellent resources on line: <http://lwvhouston.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/VG2013-English-WEB.pdf>.

This month you will find more solicitation of your hard earned dollars (tax deductible) to acquire the 7 acre tract of greenspace known as the Westbury Community Garden. I hope you will agree

with me that this is an important endeavor. We have an opportunity to really affect our neighborhood for years to come. Seven acres of park space or a federal housing project....it is in our hands.

As always I am thankful to live in this great city and in this great neighborhood.

Becky Edmondson

## Board Notes

- ◆ Charley Porcarello was voted in as one of the Section Directors for Westbury 3.
- ◆ Robert Montgomery was voted in as one of the Section Directors for Westbury 3.
- ◆ The board met in Closed Session and approved a motion to allocate, if necessary, a certain sum of money towards the purchase of the 7 acre site on Dunlap.
- ◆ Thank you to Jackie Murray of Weichert Realtors for providing cookies and water.



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 donation of \$ _____	Donations of any amount (small or large) are welcomed and	
<b>Name:</b>	<b>GIVING CATEGORIES</b>	
<b>Address:</b>		
	<b>Friend</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>Email:</b>	<b>Contributor</b>	<b>\$100</b>
Mailing Address for Donation receipt (if different)	<b>Sustainer</b>	<b>\$250</b>
	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>\$500</b>
	<b>Steward</b>	<b>\$1000</b>
	<b>Benefactor</b>	<b>\$5000+</b>
<b>Checks should be made payable to WAIC – WCG.</b> Send donations to the Westbury Civic Club, 5322 W. Bellfort St., Suite 107, Houston, TX 77035		

"Like" us on  
Facebook

# Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock

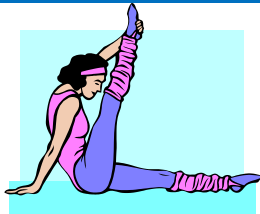
Monday-Thursday 12PM—8PM; Fridays 11AM-7PM

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

"Like" us on  
Facebook

## Stretching Exercise Class

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



## Line Dancing Class

Mondays, 1:45-2:45 PM  
For more information about this fun, unique workout class. Call 713-726-7107

## 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

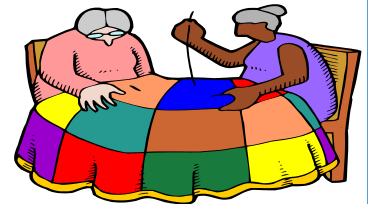
Tues, 5:45-7PM  
Drop in to preview the program or call Dorothy at 713-723-4441 or Naomi at 713-988-2233

## 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



## Games

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

## Ballroom Dance Class

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

All activities on  
November 5 are  
cancelled due  
to the election.

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



## 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.

## \*WE ARE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD\*

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jackiem@waynemurray.net



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\$229,500



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# What's Happening in Westbury

## Events & Meetings Calendar November 2013

Nov 2	Rain Date for White Elephant Sale 8AM to Noon Westbury United Methodist, 5200 Willowbend
Nov 7	Westbury Meet & Eat @ Teotihuacan, 6PM 6579 W Belfort, Open to ALL Westbury residents For more information, see page 15
Sat 9	Westbury Park Grand Opening Celebration , 11AM - 2PM Westbury Park, 5635 Willowbend (playground off Stillbrooke) For more information, see page 1
Mon 11	Westbury Community Garden Meeting 6:30PM Platou Community Center— Chimney Rock
Sat 16	Willow Waterhole Monthly Audubon Society Bird Survey 8AM Meet at The Gathering Place parking lot—5310 S. Willow
Sun 17	Music in the Park @ Willow Waterhole, 4-6PM Parking is available near 5200 Dryad. Event at the gazebo. For more information, see page 7
Mon 18	Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow
Wed 20	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting 8:30AM Salem Lutheran - 4930 W. Belfort See page 10.
Wed 20	WCC Board Meeting 7PM– 9PM Westbury Baptist Church Open to all Westbury residents!
Tues 26	SW PIP (Police Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM Aramco Building—9009 W. Loop South
Thurs 28	Happy Thanksgiving! WCC Office Closed. No Trash pick-up, regular trash and recycling will be picked up on Friday Nov. 29
Dec 14	Deck the Halls Parade, 5PM More more information, see page 11

**Westbury Park Grand  
Opening Celebration  
NOV. 9, 11am-2pm**

## City of Houston Heavy Trash Schedule

Nov.	Tree Waste	January	Tree Waste
Dec.	Junk Waste	February	Junk Waste

## WCC Office Holiday Schedule

Nov. 27: Closed at Noon

Nov. 28 & 29: Closed

Dec. 23-27: Closed

Dec. 31: Closed at Noon

Jan. 1: Closed

## Heavy Trash & Recycling Calendar

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

December 2013	
Thurs 12	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Thurs 12	Heavy Trash— JUNK WASTE <b>ALL OF WESTBURY</b>
Thurs 26	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury

## Important Trash & Recycling Info

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

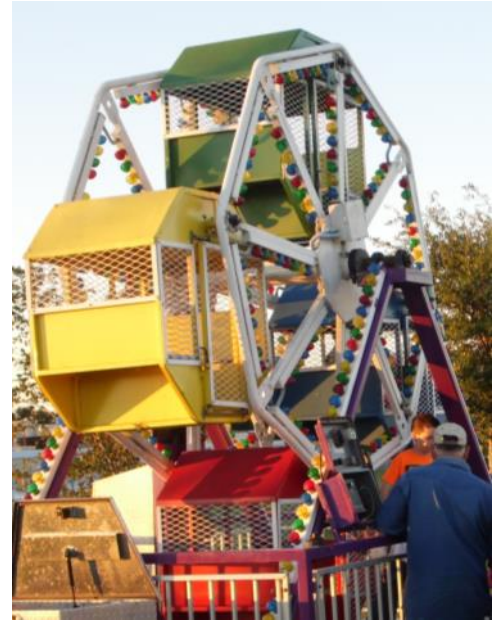
# Halloween Movie Night

The Willow Waterhole hosted its 2nd Annual Halloween "Movie Night in the Park" & Costume Contest. Over a hundred residents enjoyed the crisp cool night watching *Hotel Transylvania* under the full moon, as they lounged in chairs and on blankets. It was great kickoff to the Halloween season.

The evening started with a small ferris wheel that was the kids' highlight. Fresh popped popcorn, snacks and water were available throughout the evening. Everyone enjoyed the free snacks!

The costume contest awarded prizes to the top three in each category. Among the winners were a baby Elmo, a dog named Bones in a skeleton costume, a policeman, a Power Ranger and lots of pretty princesses. People brought their kids, their dogs, their friends and their families out to enjoy the beautiful weather and good movie.

Don't miss the next movie night in the park! It's fun for the whole family!



**Outdoor Movie  
and Ferris Wheel!**



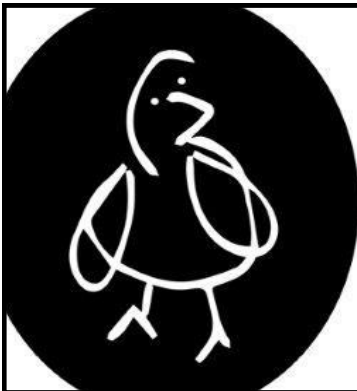
**Presented By:**



**Sponsored By:**



**Costume Contest  
and  
Face Painting!**



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

# Willow Waterhole Upcoming Events

## Music in the Park

This popular **FREE** event is back!

**Sunday  
November 17  
4-6PM**

Come out for a late afternoon of Al's All Stars, Al Campbell's hand-picked band from local magnet music programs. **FREE.**

**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" their Facebook page, Willow Waterhole or go to [wwgc.org](http://wwgc.org).**



### Guitar Concert at WWGC

On a beautiful fall evening in October, music lovers listened to the relaxing music of acoustic fusion guitarist Ricardo Sweatt Rodriguez at the South Gazebo of Willow Waterhole. Ricardo is a solo artist who runs his own record label & concert company at Omeros.net. For those who missed the concert, music samples are available at <http://omeros.net/listen.html>

### Audubon Society Bird Survey

Saturday, November 16 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**

Presented By:



Sponsored By:



## Be Part of The Willow Waterhole Greenspace

### 2013 Calendar of Events

- Houston Audubon Society**
- Willow Waterhole Bird Survey
  - 3rd Saturday of the month
  - Where: Gathering Place on S. Willow
  - Next Survey: Sat 7am Aug 17, 2013
- Harvest Moon Fest - Sat Sept 27**
- Horse-drawn Hayride, Miniature Train, Evening Stroll, Free popcorn, cookies, bottled water
  - MOVIE: Fly Me Home
  - DINNER: Tejano Salsa and Honey's Snowballs
- Music in the Park - Sat Oct 5 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm**
- An evening with Ricardo Sweatt Rodriguez
  - Acoustic Fusion Solo Guitar
- Halloween Movie Night**
- Sat Oct 19 from 8 to 9:30 pm
  - Movie and Costume Contest
- Music in the Park - Al's All Stars**
- Sun Nov 17 from 4 to 6 pm
  - Al Campbell hand-picked band from local magnet music programs

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

Volunteer  Member  Sponsor

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Mayoral Debate & Candidate Forum

The Westbury SuperNeighborhood (Westbury Civic Club and the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation) were among a group of southwest Houston community organizations which helped organize a Mayoral Debate and Candidates Forum on October 15 at the Bethel's Place Empowerment Center on Sandpiper. Other host organizations included the Braeswood SuperNeighborhood, the Ft. Bend County – Houston SuperNeighborhood, and Southwest Houston 2000.

This event was outstanding. Most of the city non-mayoral candidates showed up and 6 of the 8 mayoral candidates participated in a fast-paced debate moderated by Carmen Watkins. Bethel's Place Empowerment Center provided a wonderful meeting space with an excellent audio system, clear visibility for all, and welcoming greeters. The crowd was estimated to be about 150 – 200 people and one Westbury resident said it was the **"Best. Mayoral. Debate. Ever."**



## ELECTION DAY – Tuesday, November 5

Your Decision. Your Vote. Westbury is respected as an area with high voter turnout. Keep up the Westbury tradition and VOTE!

### Where Do You Vote?

- Precinct 14:** Parker Elementary, 10626 Atwell
- Precinct 22:** Foerster Elementary, 14200 Fonmeadow
- Precinct 146:** Platou Community Center, 11655 Chimney Rock
- Precinct 281:** Kolter Elementary, 9710 Runnymede
- Precinct 291:** Houston Christian Fellowship, 11122 Hillcroft
- Precinct 293:** Anderson Elementary, 5727 Ludington
- Precinct 403:** Westbury Baptist Church, 10425 Hillcroft
- Precinct 453:** Spanish United Pentecostal Church, 5365 W. Airport
- Precinct 693:** Braeswood Assembly of God, 10611 Fondren

Polling locations may change up until Election Day. Visit [www.harris.votes.org](http://www.harris.votes.org) for up to minute news.

### What is on the ballot?

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





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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](http://www.harrisvotes.org) or call **The Election Information Line (713) 755-6965.**





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- ❖ City Permits & Inspections
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- ❖ Sewer Reroutes
- ❖ Tunneling Experts
- ❖ Leak Detections
- ❖ Gas Leaks & Repair

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PRESENT AT TIME OF SERVICE



Gold Star Member  
MPL - 15997  
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# WAIC Board Meeting

## Pending Court Date for Foxy's Cabaret "Adult Entertainment" Club

On October 16, Laura Cahill, Assistant County Attorney in County Attorney Vince Ryan's office, spoke to the board of the non-profit Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC). The County Attorney's office has a nuisance abatement program to prevent or reduce recurring criminal activity. The state allows the county to go after nuisances under Texas Sec. 125.0015. COMMON NUISANCE. "A person who maintains a place to which persons habitually go for the following purposes and who knowingly tolerates the activity and furthermore fails to make reasonable attempts to abate the activity maintains a common nuisance". The state list of nuisances includes: gambling, prostitution, aggravated assaults, organized criminal activity, delivery/possession/ use of controlled substances, among a long list of nuisance activities.

Ms. Cahill said that a civil court date for Foxy's Cabaret, 11112 S. Post Oak, is anticipated to be set soon, perhaps for early November 2013. Since litigation is pending, Ms. Cahill could not talk about the specifics of the Foxy's case. She noted that the county litigation is separate from litigation by the city about Foxy's not having a city license to operate a sexually oriented

business (SOB) within city limits. The city has joined the county suit. Foxy's is too close (closer than 1500 ft) to a church and to the Varnett School to be able to have a license for a sexually oriented business in Houston.

On its Facebook site, Foxy's describes itself as "adult entertainment". In February of 2013, the County Attorney's Office filed for and was granted a temporary injunction against Foxy's due to prostitution and drug offenses. The temporary injunction required Foxy's to take specific listed actions to reduce criminal activity at the property. For example, they had to remove the "champagne lounge", add surveillance cameras, hire four licensed security guards, check all bags for drugs or weapons, and do background checks on all employees.

It is anticipated that the WAIC and the WCC will not receive much advance notice about when the court case will be held. We have also been warned that the time and place are subject to change with little notice. Both the WAIC and the WCC hope to have representatives in the audience at the court case. Up-to-date information will be posted on the Facebook pages for the WCC (Westbury Houston) and the WAIC (Westbury37WAIC) as we learn more about the place and time for this court case.

## WAIC Meeting Notes: October 16

As part of our ongoing effort to bring you more information about Westbury and our surrounding areas, we will feature a new monthly column with a synopsis of the monthly WAIC board meeting, which is also the official meeting of SuperNeighborhood #37. Together the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation and the Westbury Civic Club make up the Westbury SuperNeighborhood #37.

The designation of a SuperNeighborhood (SN) and the boundaries are done by the city. The Westbury area is so large that we are our own SuperNeighborhood.

The October meeting had a full agenda. Laura Cahill spoke regarding Foxy's Cabaret (detailed to the left). Four COH Department of Neighborhood inspectors came to discuss several ongoing problem properties and actions that were being taken towards fixing them. The Assistant Principal of Anderson Elementary gave an update on the school. Bill Burhans updated everyone on the Westbury Park Celebration.

Next meeting is Wed, Nov. 20 at 8:30AM at Salem Lutheran, 4930 W. Bellfort



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# Neighborhood News 1

## Tree Stumps?

Do you have a tree stump in the city right-of-way on your property (between the sidewalk and the street)? If you have a stump, call 311 or go online and request that it be removed.

Although trees have long lives, they are susceptible to damage or death due to high winds, drought stress, insect damage, or the age of the tree. This is a great time of year to plant a new tree to allow the tree to develop roots before the heat of summer 2014 begins.

## St. John's Living Gift Market

Sun., November 24, 11:30AM-1:30PM, St. John's Presbyterian Church will hold their annual living gift market. At this event you will learn about local and international relief efforts as well as find unique handcrafted items. St. John's Presbyterian is located at 5020 W. Bellfort.

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

## Deck the Halls Holiday Parade, December 14

The 14th Annual Deck the Halls Parade will march on Saturday, Dec. 14th, at 5 PM! The parade is sponsored by The Mandell family. While this is not a WCC sponsored event, we are happy to advertise it and participate in it. This parade was mentioned specifically by *Houstonia* magazine when it ranked Westbury in the top 25 neighborhoods in Houston!

This year's theme is "Super Heroes". See the Grand Marshall, Wonder Woman, lead heroes and villains along the traditional route through Westbury, plus the traditional favorites like Santa, Hanukkah Harry, and Pancho Claus. As always, they are collecting toys for underprivileged children for the holidays, so please drop off toy donations in bins at Cue's Burgers.

The parade organizers hope to see residents on the route light up their yards and wearing their favorite Super Hero costumes. If you or your group would like to participate in the parade, please contact Ember Mandell at 713-367-3787, or visit us at [www.deckthehallsparade.org](http://www.deckthehallsparade.org), or at Deck the Halls Parade on Facebook.

## NextDoor.com

NextDoor is a private social network where Westbury neighbors pass along crime and security information, neighbor to neighbor, and other community information. Although this site is not maintained or operated by the Westbury Civic Club, more and more Westbury residents are signing up for the service. Note that each member of NextDoor must verify their address to join. HPD has recently announced that it will be posting on Nextdoor.

If interested, Sign up at <https://westburytx.nextdoor.com>

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# Parker Elementary News and Events

## Annual POPS Concert & Book Fair Thursday November 7th

Parker Elementary, located at 10626 Atwell, 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.

## FunFest Was A Success!

Parker's FunFest on October 19<sup>th</sup> was a great success. Families from all over Westbury came for the fun, not just Parker families. There were smiles all around. FunFest at Parker is a great day of fun and is always a nice addition to the family fall calendar.

The theme was books and inspired by Parker's Librarian, Susan Shafer and her literary "relatives".

There was the Johnny Appleseed game, Miss Spider's Blossom Toss, the Cat in the Hat game, the Eric Carl Wiffle Ball, the Captain Underpants game, the Harry Potter Dragon Moon Walk and Hogwarts Castle Moon Walk, and more. There was a Petting Zoo, a Rock Wall to climb, a Pinkalicious glam tent, a train ride and the dunk tank where favorite teachers took a seat while students paid for the chance to dunk them.

Food was abundant and yummy. From turkey legs to tamales to Honey's Snowballs to funnel cakes, there was something delicious for everyone.



## Parker Elementary School Magnet Tours

Parker Elementary, an HISD Music Magnet and Neighborhood Vanguard School, will be hosting tours of the magnet school during Magnet Awareness Week, November 4-8, 2013. All interested families are invited to come and learn about the academic and music programs offered at Parker for K-5<sup>th</sup> grade students.

The magnet has instruction in Suzuki strings, piano, band, chorus, guitar, and music enrichment. Parker's Suzuki strings and choral programs have national reputations for excellence and its band program has been recognized throughout the state. Parker performing groups have performed at prestigious events around Houston, the State of Texas, and across the country. Last school year, the Advanced and Jazz Bands performed at the Crescent City Music Festival in New Orleans in March. The Parker Chorus (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders) performed at the American Choral Directors Association Conference in Dallas. It is the only elementary school chorus to ever be invited, selected by audition, to perform by the ACDA. In 2014, Parker will hold its 35<sup>th</sup> annual Suzuki Workshop and Concert.

Parker Magnet tours will be Monday through Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>, at 1 p.m.

There will be additional tours on Monday and Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, at 9 a.m.

On Tuesday November 5<sup>th</sup> and, there will be early evening tour at 6:30 p.m.

Additional tours after Magnet Awareness Week can be scheduled upon request.

Parker Elementary is located at 10626 Atwell in Westbury. For questions about the Parker Music Magnet or to request a special magnet tour, please contact Magnet Coordinator Carol Kehlenbrink at 713-726-2122 or [ckehlenb@houstonisd.org](mailto:ckehlenb@houstonisd.org). The principal at Parker is Lori Frodine.

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Sending multiple payments?  
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 3 payments of 98.34  
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 options or questions

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

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# Neighborhood News 2

## WARNING Post Office

The outside drop-off mailboxes at the US Post Office at Chimney Rock have again been vandalized and/or had items stolen in October 2013. **The WCC strongly advises all residents to get out of your car and take your mail INSIDE the post office.** If you used the outside mailboxes in October, please monitor that your mail made it to its destination.

## WAIC Joins Facebook

The Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC), our non-profit community partner, has a new facebook page featuring the WAIC and the Westbury SuperNeighborhood (SN# 37 per the city). The WAIC hosts the monthly Westbury SN #37 meeting. Take a look and Like the page at Westbury37WAIC. The web address is [www.facebook.com/Westbury37WAIC](http://www.facebook.com/Westbury37WAIC), and you do NOT need to be a member of Facebook to view the page.

## October Yard of the Month

**Parkwest 1**  
5542 Redstart—John & Michele Walton  
**Parkwest 2**  
5823 Spellman—Sergio & Wanda Henao

## Kroger Gas Station Coming Soon

Have you noticed the construction on W. Bellfort behind the Kroger? It is going to become the new location of a Kroger Gas Station.

## Monthly Westbury Meet & Eat

Come out to Teotihuacan Mexican Restaurant at 6579 W. Bellfort every 1st Thursday of the month to meet Westbury residents. This event is open to anyone who lives in Westbury. Ask for the Westbury group. Happy Hour will be extended for the time we are there. The first Meet & Eat in October had 26 people come and enjoy delicious food and meet fellow Westbury residents.

**November Westbury Meet & Eat**  
**Thurs, November 7 @ 6PM**

## FREE Document Shredding for Residents

The City of Houston offers **free** on-site document shredding services to residents (not for commercial/business use) once a month at different locations. The November Shred day is in our area at the HPD South Gessner Station. Saturday, November 23, from 8AM to Noon. 8605 Westplace @ S. Gessner, near Welch Middle School.



## Welcome to New Section Director, Charlseay Porcarello.

Charlseay moved into Westbury 33 years ago with her husband Tony. She was born and raised in Houston. Charlseay and Tony have two grown children. Recently their daughter and son-in-law moved to Westbury and are currently await the arrival of their first child. Charlseay is a local realtor. Charlseay is a Lifetime Member and Volunteer with the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo as a Photographer.

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# DeFunding of Local Magnet Program

## HISD Announces Plans to DeFund Local Magnet Programs

We have just discovered that HISD plans to defund the magnet programs at several local schools, including the Fine Arts magnet program at Westbury High School. We are awaiting more data to formulate our response and to “rally the troops” to protect our community.

For many years, advocates from the Friends of Westbury High School, the Westbury Civic Club, and the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation have pushed to create a Fine Arts / Music Magnet program at WHS because feeder schools in the Westbury area (Parker Elementary and Johnston Middle School) have renowned Music or Fine Arts magnet programs. We consider this to be important to keep ZONED students enrolled at WHS rather than transferring to other schools.

Unfortunately, HISD is only considering how successful magnet programs are at attracting transfer students to a campus. The Fine Arts magnet program at WHS is a young program, but the students and teachers are enthusiastic and have already achieved awards.

### Concerns about DeFunding the Magnet program at WHS should be directed to HISD at:

The Office of School Choice  
4400 West 18th St., Level 1SE  
Houston, TX 77092  
Telephone: 713-556-6947

As WHS Principal Tim Wainright notes, “the district is only considering non-zone transfers to affected schools... This poses a problem for Westbury HS because while we may only attract 125 non zone students to Westbury via our Magnet Program, many of Westbury's zoned students are in the Magnet Program... our Magnet Programs are a significant factor in keeping zoned students at our campuses”.

WCC Director of Community Relations, Cindy Chapman said, “Personally, I am very disappointed that our community strongly supported the recent HISD

bond referendum and now HISD threatens to defund a magnet program which our community has worked very hard to implement at WHS. The Music Magnet program at WHS ties into the Music and Fine Arts magnet programs at area feeder schools. It is important to this community that WHS has a strong music program.

HISD states that it is closing the magnet programs at 20 schools. “HISD is phasing out less popular magnet programs, the district is also adding new magnet programs designed to meet current demand. Last month, HISD won a \$12 million federal grant for six magnets that emphasize science, technology, engineering, and math instruction. Magnet programs that are being eliminated after the current school year are located at the following schools: Burbank, Elrod, Law, Pleasantville, Wesley, and West University elementary schools; Attucks, Deady, Dowling, Holland, Jackson, Key, and Patrick Henry middle schools; and Jones, Lee, Madison, Sharpstown, Westbury, Wheatley and Worthing high schools.”

### Westbury High School Fine Arts Department Mission Statement:

The Westbury High School Fine Arts Magnet program serves committed, highly motivated students interested in Dance, Choral and Instrumental Music, Visual Arts, Speech and Debate. The program assists students in the development of performance skills and techniques while nurturing individuality and creativity.

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# National Night Out 2013

National Night Out 2013 was held October 1. We had 12 parties register with the WCC Office. Thank you to all the Westbury Residents who registered their National Night Out Party! Community Relations Director Cindy Chapman, Security Director Leslee Cross, and Office Manager Jennifer Edmondson visited as many registered parties as possible. All 3 WAP Deputies visited registered parties. The parties this year were great! One on Ashcroft had a taco truck with delicious food. The Dunlap party won the WCC Pizza party and received 8 free pizzas! It was nice to meet so many Westbury neighbors and see the interactions! Can't wait to see you in 2014! If you didn't have a National Night Out party this year but you really wanted to, call the WCC Office. We can help you!



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5062 Wilshire Dr 3 beds, 2 baths, 1657 sq. ft. <a href="#">View Details</a>   <a href="#">Show On Map</a>	\$180,000 \$108 / S.F.	128 days	OK
4117 Whycross 2 beds, 2 baths, 1457 sq. ft. <a href="#">View Details</a>   <a href="#">Show On Map</a>	\$259,000 \$177 / S.F.	44 days	OK
4806 Briarwood Dr 3 beds, 2 baths, 1727 sq. ft. <a href="#">View Details</a>   <a href="#">Show On Map</a>	\$214,000 \$124 / S.F.	3 days	OK
4806 Briarwood Dr 3 beds, 2 baths, 1727 sq. ft. <a href="#">View Details</a>   <a href="#">Show On Map</a>	\$237,000 \$137 / S.F.	44 days	OK
4806 Briarwood Dr 3 beds, 2 baths, 1727 sq. ft. <a href="#">View Details</a>   <a href="#">Show On Map</a>	\$248,000 \$143 / S.F.	36 days	OK



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# Westbury Community Garden Outreach

## Composting Taught at the Garden



Girl Scouts from the troop at Windsor Village United Methodist worked on the "lasagna bed" on Sat., October 12.

They built the sheet composting bed from a cardboard base and added brown matter (leaves), a layer of newspaper, green matter (fresh grass clippings), and then continued in this manner. We also added coffee grounds from Starbucks and produce trimmings from Randalls and chopped up cantaloupe and peelings from a private home and banana peels from their snack. The term "lasagna bed" fits perfectly.

Children from **Post Oak Montessori** visited the garden on Saturday, October 5. The children, with their parents, came out to learn. They planted garden 4A for Hazel Potvin, one of the WCG members. Potvin prepared the soil in advance. The children planted cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, broccoli plants, and the onion bulbs. Then they planted radish, carrots, beet, parsnip, and kohlrabi seeds. The children learned about growing their own vegetables and their parents learned about our wonderful garden.

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." 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.

\* **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 WHS.

\* **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



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## More Than Just A Garden...

The 7 acre site of the Westbury Community Garden is so much more than just a garden. It has a butterfly garden certified by the North American Butterfly Association, [www.naba.org](http://www.naba.org). A butterfly garden supplies food and shelter for all stages of a butterfly's life. The butterfly garden is alongside the walkway to the Outdoor Learning Center (pavilion). There is also a Native Plant Demonstration garden, and fruit orchard. See photos below.



## Save Our 7 Acre Greenspace

Our negotiations to keep this seven acre site as a green space have been progressing favorably. The Westbury bCommunity Garden continues to flourish and there are big plans for the future. We want to expand the garden, create a tree farm, an orchard and hopefully a farm stand. Our goal is to raise \$500,000.

We thank all the residents who have contributed to this effort. To date we have raised \$4,600. You, too, can help make these visions a reality. You can send your tax deductible donations to the WAIC-WCG at 5322 W Bellfort Ste 107 Houston, TX 77096.

### Help Save Our 7 Acre Greenspace

Attached is my tax-deductible donation of \$_____	Donations of any amount (small or large) are welcomed and appreciated!	
<b>Name:</b>	<b>GIVING CATEGORIES</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	<b>Contributor</b>	<b>\$100</b>
<b>Email:</b>	<b>Sustainer</b>	<b>\$250</b>
Mailing Address for Donation receipt (if different)	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>\$500</b>
	<b>Steward</b>	<b>\$1000</b>
	<b>Benefactor</b>	<b>\$5000+</b>
	<b>Other</b>	
<p><b>Checks should be made payable to WAIC – WCG.</b>                  Send donations to the Westbury Civic Club,                  5322 W. Bellfort St., Suite 107, Houston, TX 77035</p>		

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# Crime/Security

## Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37\* 30 days preceding October 20, 2013

	Single-Family Home	Apt/Condo	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
<b>Burglary</b>	10	3	0	1	14
<b>Theft</b>	14	5	5	2	26
<b>Auto Theft</b>	1	2	0	0	3
<b>Robbery</b>	2	3	1	0	6
<b>Assault</b>	1	3	0	0	4
<b>Rape</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Murder</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	28	16	6	3	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 10/20/13)


Block	Street	Crime
10700	Atwell	Theft
12100	Atwell	Auto Theft
12000	Braewick	Burglary
12000	Braewick	Theft
5100	Briarbend	Theft
5100	Briarbend	Theft
11100	Cedarhurst	Burglary
11800	Chimney Rock	Robbery
12100	Chimney Rock	Theft
12100	Chimney Rock	Theft
11000	Doud	Theft
5800	Dryad	Robbery
10600	Endicott	Burglary
6000	Fontenelle	Theft
5800	Greencraig	Theft
10800	Hillcroft	Burglary
12300	Mullins	Theft
12300	Nesmith	Theft
11900	Renwick	Burglary
5900	Sanford	Burglary
5700	Southminster	Burglary
5000	Stillbrooke	Theft
5900	Warm Springs	Burglary
5700	West Airport	Theft
6100	West Airport	Assault
5000	Willowbend	Burglary
5400	Willowbend	Burglary
5500	Willowbend	Theft




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## Security Updates and Information

 Numerous packages have been stolen from front porches. It is been reported in almost every section of Westbury. The hardest hit area is Westbury 1. One resident watched in disbelief as a car stopped on Willowbend, a young man jumped out, grabbed the package off the porch and sped away before a license plate could even be obtained. With the holiday season upon us, please be sure that you mail orders aren't just left on your front porch.

 There have been some burglaries of motor vehicles in the neighborhood. Do not leave valuables in your vehicles. If possible, park in your garages. Lock your vehicles at all times.

 Keep your garage doors shut. Items have been reported stolen from open garages while the homeowners were out of sight of the garage door.

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

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# Westbury Area Church Partners

## Grace's Gift: Yarn Bombing at the Platou Community Center

A "yarn bombing" is a temporary decoration of things outdoors using handmade knitted or crocheted items. Sometimes these projects are very big and impressive; sometimes they are small. Did you ever encounter a parking meter wearing a cute little sweater? The "yarn bombing" near the parking lot entrance to the Platou Community Center is modest. Edith Smith donated boxes of small yarn projects created and left by her mother, Grace. Volunteers from Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church and the "Portable Projects" group at the Platou Community Center assembled these various pieces of yarnwork to decorate trees, benches, and the information kiosk at the community center. Drop by to view the yarn bombing. The installation is temporary and will be available only for a limited time.



Salem  
Lutheran and  
Platou  
Center  
Volunteers

## Westbury Baptist – Faith in Action Day

Westbury Baptist Church held its annual Faith in Action Day on Sunday October 13, 2013. The entire Church chooses from a list of various community projects and goes out into community to serve in lieu of holding church service.

The Young Couples Sunday School Class chose to do trash pick up at the Willow



Waterhole Nature Reserve and also at Chimney Rock Park (Platou Community Center). Despite the drizzling rain, the group collected trash from three of the compartments (detention lakes) at Willow Waterhole. Dane Isenhower said "We need to schedule trash pickup at Willow Waterhole every weekend during the summer, because the previous four times our class has scheduled this activity it has rained."

*The WCC thanks members of Westbury Baptist for their ongoing contributions toward making Westbury a better place!*



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# Salem "Serving Day"

Every year Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church has a "Serving Day" where members perform acts of service for the community. This year on Sept 29, four teams of volunteers from Salem chose to serve projects in the Westbury Community.

## Westbury Community Garden

Three adults and a group of 9<sup>th</sup> grade girl scouts cleaned weeds from the Butterfly Garden and the entrance walkway. They also took down and cleaned the purple martin birdhouses for the winter, since the migratory birds have already left for warmer climates for the winter.



## Platou Community Center and Chimney Rock Park

Volunteers worked on the park entrance sign and helped install the "yarn bombing" art project near the parking lot entrance to the community center.



**Willow Waterhole** Volunteers collected trash and cleared tree limbs and debris.



## The Gathering Place (social services center in Westbury) –

Worked on the mural inside the building.



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for making  
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# Platou Community Center

The Platou Center offers a wide variety of activities and groups. There is line dancing, aerobics, a quilting group, and so much more. Check out page 4 for the full Platou Center Schedule. On October 17 the Platou Center hosted an Open House. It was really neat to see all different groups that meet and see what they do. The line dancers did a performance for everyone while the quilters and portable project groups had displays of their work and did demonstrations. If you are interested in joining any of these wonderful groups, please call 713-726-7107 or see page 4.

## MsBeehaven Quilting Bee

The MsBeehaven (pronounced MisBehaving) Quilting Bee meets weekly at the Platou Center on Tuesdays from 10 AM until 2:30 PM. The purpose of the group is to work on projects in the spacious big room with lots of tables. Members assist each other with advice, praise, and help when needed – especially when you are sandwiching your quilt top, batting and backing. The strength of the group is that many long-time, experienced seamstresses and quilters will give guidance as needed.

Bring your own portable, sewing machine and everything you need to work on your project. Irons and ironing boards are provided. A cutting area, cutting board, and some rulers are provided. Bring your own rotary cutter. Bring your own lunch.



Demos and performances at the Platou Open House.



Platou Center is located at 11655 Chimney Rock

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