

# WESTPORT~NEWS

## **On the Home Front**

Bi-monthly column by: Linda Skolnick

### **If Not Westport...Then Where?**

There's only one Westport...with just a select 25,000 or so of us lucky enough to claim it as our home. So, what if we had to find another Westport? I know we couldn't...but Homeadvisor.com claims it could at least help in the search. Let's say you need to move to the Long Island Area, or your job takes you to New Jersey, Homeadvisor.com wants to put its two cents in.

HomeAdvisor.com first asks for your hometown area code, and then for the broad area that you are contemplating moving to. It compares 5 criteria: Neighborhood type (ex. Suburban), Median home purchase costs, Median age of homes, Percent of homes owned vs. rented and Property Crime risk. It doesn't seem to cover all the extras...but somehow it works.

If you are thinking of moving to the Bergen County area of New Jersey, Englewood Cliffs matches 4 of the 5 criteria, as does Woodcliff Lake.

If Westchester seems a better commute, Armonk and Bedford match 4 out of 5 criteria. While in Long Island, Manhasset matches all 5. Great Neck, Old Westbury, Roslyn, Garden City, Hewlett Bay, and Merrick meet 4 of the 5 key criteria.

Back in Connecticut, Darien meets all five of the criteria, while Greenwich and Weston only meet three.

Obviously, Westport offers many special attributes. Certainly many more than are compared in this web site. Surprisingly, however, for many of us who know these towns mentioned above, the criteria seem to work. Many of the same types of people that are attracted to Westport would indeed be attracted to the close matches. Luckily for all of us...we did choose here. Let's face it, for most of us Westport matches 5 out of a possible 5 criteria!