



westwords

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION

November 2007

www.westwoodcivic.org

Volume 37, Issue 11

Presidents Message-

As you will see in this newsletter, there is plenty going on in Westwood these days. There are many opportunities to get involved, and I truly believe that we can make a difference in our neighborhood. Please enjoy this newsletter, and see if there is something that interests you, or a project that you might be able to help with. Please renew your membership, and invite a friend to join. I hope to see you at the Christmas Dinner.

-Jim McNulty



Westwood Civic Association Annual Christmas Dinner/ Meeting

Tuesday December 18 2007

Henke Winery 3077 Harrison Ave

6:00 Social Hour

7:00 Dinner/ Brief Meeting

Food will be provided, or you may order full meals from the regular menu. Come enjoy the evening at Henke Winery with your Westwood neighbors.

For more information call Jim Huhn at:481-6545

NOTICE

The Westwood Civic Association will be voting on the 2008 Neighborhood Support Program (NSP) funding at the November 20 meeting. Each year, the city gives money to each neighborhood, and the neighborhood decides how to spend it (within program rules). In 2007, the funding was \$7000. All Westwood residents are entitled to vote, and you need not be a member of WCA to participate.

Neighborhood Enhancement Program



Westwood has been chosen to participate in the 2008 Neighborhood Enhancement program from May 15 to August 15. This program has evolved

from the Concentrated enforcement Program that took place in Price Hill and other neighborhoods this year. During the 90 day program, the city will focus enforcement and services in a defined area of our neighborhood. The area selected will be one that has high concentrations of crime and blight. Many departments will participate, including Police, Fire, Buildings and Inspections, Community Development, Health, and Public Services. We intend to make significant progress in quality of life issues during this effort.

Ryan Park

The new Gazebo was dedicated on November 1. The project was made possible thanks to the Cincinnati Recreation Commission, along with generous donations of time and money from the community. It looks great, and marks the completion of Phase 1 of the Ryan Commons revival.



New Committee Formed

David Beck is the chair of our newest committee called "Westwood Gateways".



Mission Statement-

Westwood Gateways' goal is to beautify the main gateways to the Westwood neighborhood, focusing on neat and clean sidewalks, well maintained greenways and litter control. We are a group of women and men who commit our time to these efforts, as well as to helping keep other streets in Westwood neat and clean. We sponsor regular clean up dates where groups of people come together to work on larger projects, particularly along Queen City, Harrison and Montana Avenues. We also communicate regularly with members of the Westwood community to offer assistance in obtaining appropriate action from City of Cincinnati service divisions. Our vision is a Westwood free of litter, with tree-lined streets and boulevards, beautiful green spaces, and property owners who responsibly maintain their street-scapes.

Upcoming WCA General Membership Meetings

November 20, 7:30 pm

December 18, 7:00 pm (Christmas meeting at Henke Winery)

Regular meetings are the third Tuesday of each month 7:30 PM Westwood Town Hall.

Steering Committee Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month. 7:30 PM WTH

All meetings are open to the public, and everyone is welcome.

(Continued on page 2)

WCA MONTHLY STATEMENT
September 2007

(Continued from page 1)

INCOME:

N.S.P.:

Membership \$80.00

Invest in Neighborhoods

TOTAL INCOME: \$80.00

EXPENSES:

Newsletter/ Directory \$561.79

Postage/Mailings \$63.31

Office Expenses 31.95

Misc. (legal) 105.00

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$762.05

Checking Account Balance: \$2270.71

Savings Account Balance: 2457.65

CD Balance: \$7261.48

Submitted by:

James D. Huhn, Treasurer

WCA OFFICERS

Term: April 2007- April 2008

PRESIDENT-

*Jim McNulty.....662-8560

VICE PRESIDENT-

*Melva Gweyn.....481-0761

VICE PRESIDENT-

*Randy Hammann.....662-6070

RECORDING SECRETARY-

*Joel Kimmert.....389-0858

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY-

*Scott Gehring.....675-3005

TREASURER-

*Mike Brestel

*Sr. Ann Rene McConn

*Dave Cook

*Adam Sanregret

*Dick Finn

*Eric Schmitt

*Mary Kuhl

*John Sess

*Trent Lewis

If you would like to be a part of our mailing list, please contact us at westwoodgateways@hotmail.com. Alternatively, you can leave a message for us at 807-0817. We'll let you know when our upcoming clean up dates are. You can let us know what you are already doing to help fulfill the vision of a clean and beautiful Westwood. Together, we believe we can have a greater positive impact on our neighborhood, achieve more consistent and improved results, and support the many individual efforts already underway.

Rondos Closes

The successful Westwood restaurant has closed it's doors, and the contents have been auctioned off. The owners have moved to Europe. Many will miss this outstanding dining spot. We are searching for someone to fill the void left on Harrison Ave. Do you have ideas for new businesses for our business districts? We would sure like to hear them.



Western Hills Plaza Target Store

Several people have asked how the Target store is coming along at Western Hills Plaza. The minor zoning variances that Target wants from the city do not appear to be a problem. WCA supports the development. According to a recent email I received from Western Hills Plaza owner Centro Properties, "Everything is still on track. Work should start right around Jan 1st. If you noticed, Deals has relocated to make way for Target."

Westwood School Update

CPS has announced that they will not make a decision on the Westwood School facility until spring. We are continuing to meet with them to expedite the process. The Westwood Historical Society has taken the position that is in favor of renovating, rather than demolishing this treasure. That is also the position of WCA. The building has been vacated and we have asked CPS to make sure that it is properly maintained, and is not allowed to fall into disrepair. We can all help by keeping an eye on the building, and reporting any broken windows, graffiti, trash, loitering, etc. to 591-6000.



(Continued on page 3)

"QUOTE" OF THE MONTH

Kahlil Gibran:

A little knowledge that acts is worth infinitely more than much knowledge that is idle.

Monthly Ad Rates

\$100.00.....Full Page
\$50.00.....Half Page
\$25.00.....Quarter Page
\$10.00.....Business Card
\$50.00.....Insert

Published 12 times a year by WCA,
with funds supplied by the
Neighborhood Support Program,
local advertisers, and membership dues.

For information on placing an ad, contact:
mrmcnulty@fuse.net or-

Westwood Civic Association
P.O. Box 11466
Cincinnati, OH 45211

(Continued from page 2)

Captain Raabe Receives Award from WCA



District 3 Police Commander Captain Andrew Raabe was chosen to lead the Criminal Investigation Section at CPD.

On November 5, Westwood Concern and The Price Hill Civic Club hosted a party to honor his years of excellent service to our communities. The Westwood Civic Association presented him with a plaque which read- "Your generosity and dedication to the Westwood Community has been most appreciated. Thank you for your extraordinary service to our neighborhood."

The new party room addition at Price Hill Chili was packed with community members there to express appreciation for his leadership, and to wish him luck on his new assignment.

We are looking forward to welcoming our new District 3 Commander, Captain Kimberley Frey.

Community Service Liaison

Sister Anne Rene

McConn has volunteered to serve as the Community Service Liaison with the City of Cincinnati Communications Center.



(591-6000) The community liaison will be able to communicate with a customer relations representative in the Citywide Communications Center to resolve issues specific to your community. Ideally, this liaison will be able to update the community council on key issues and present information regularly via the community newsletter, council meetings and/or open discussion formats in the neighborhood. The staff in the Citywide Communications Center is committed to working with this liaison to further resolve issues, seek solutions to challenges, readily address concerns and provide exceptional customer service to our residents in the City of Cincinnati.

Land Banking



The WCA has been working with the city to remove blighted buildings. We were successful last year in getting rid of four of them. We need to take down many more next year. Aside from the problem of finding funding for the acquisition and demolition of these properties, there is the challenge of what

to do with the remaining empty lots. The city has taken the position that they don't want to own them long term. It would be very helpful to our neighborhood to have a non-profit holding company for these vacant properties, to take ownership and eventually develop or sell them. If you think you might be able to take this on, or know someone who could help, please let us know.

Montana Avenue Project

The Montana Avenue rehabilitation project has gone back to the drawing board after many months of neighborhood opposition to the proposed widening. The latest update is that the Transportation and Engineering department is now looking at alternatives to the wholesale widening of the entire length of the project. As you have read in previous issues of Westwards, WCA has asked them to consider the "Road Diet" concept. We hope to have a report on alternative plans very soon.



Goodwill Industries buys former Walgreens Building



The vacant building at 2990 Harrison Avenue was purchased by Goodwill Industries in October.

Budget Time

Now that the elections are over, we need to focus attention on the city budget for next year. WCA has asked the city to budget more money to eliminate blight in our neighborhood. Most of the city council members realize that this is our priority for this budget, and it was a recurring topic whenever candidates spoke on the west side. We need to encourage them to follow through on this issue. Please contact all council members, as well as the City Manager, and ask them to help us tear down blighted buildings. Your letters and phone calls can really make a difference. Blighted buildings are havens for crime, and they drag down the surrounding neighborhood. We need to keep this as our top priority. Make that call- it really makes a difference at budget time.



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Cincinnati Recreation Commission

WESTWOOD TOWN HALL RECREATION CENTER



WOW! Did we ever have a wonderful turnout for our Halloween Howl on Friday, October 26th. Over 300 people attended, and had a good time. Thanks for your support.

SANTAFEST: Friday, December 7th 6:30-8 pm. Admission \$2/per person. Visit with Santa, have a snack, play some games, make a craft, and enjoy the decorations. A fun family event for children 10 and under accompanied by an adult.



JITTERBUG LESSONS: Wednesdays, November 7th & 14th 7-8:30 pm \$20/person Sue Cavanaugh, Instructor. (Ages 15 and older.) Don't be left out of the Ballroom Dance Craze!

Other Ballroom & Latin dance classes to follow throughout the year: Waltz, Fox Trot, Cha Cha, Salsa, etc.



HOLIDAY DECORATING DEMONSTRATION:

Wed., Nov. 28th 7-8:30 pm

\$2/per person/members \$5/non-

members. Watch as our instructor teaches you

how to put together all those holiday decorations bits and pieces available in the stores to create your own Holiday garlands, wreaths and centerpieces.

THE MARGE & CHARLES J. SCHOTT FOUNDATION GIVES \$500,000 TO MOTHER OF MERCY HIGH SCHOOL

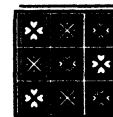


Mother of Mercy High School has received \$500,000 from The Marge & Charles J. Schott Foundation to fund the library/media center in Mercy's new Technology Wing. In addition to the library/media center, the

Technology Wing features two computer labs and a graphic design center, a television broadcast studio and enhanced space in the theater.

Assistant Principal Diane Laake explains, "This project gives us what we need for our students to meet the changing needs of the twenty-first century." Along with the new space comes new courses, including pre-engineering, enhanced graphic design, and video

QUILTING: Tuesdays, 10 – noon. Free with membership. Learn to quilt before starting on your own projects.



We should have the Summer Day Camp 2007 "Where The Wild Things Are" quilt done this fall, if you want to stop in and see that sometime. The top is sewn together and we have begun the quilting process.

HISTORICAL QUILT: We are still asking for quilt squares for our proposed Historical Quilt. Please call the center (662-9109) if you intend to make a block for this quilt. We will then mail out the specifications for each block. As soon as we collect 9 to 12 blocks, we will be able to start on the quilt for the Center. We are starting to get a few blocks in, so do not be left out of this project. Businesses, Churches, Schools, and other Institutions or Clubs should be represented in this project. Westwood is so rich in History, please help us make this project happen.

Marlene Trapp

Service Area Coordinator

Westwood Town Hall

3017 Harrison Avenue

Cincinnati, Ohio 45211

(513) 662-9109 Fax: 662-9761

westwoodtownhall@cincinnati-oh.gov



broadcasting. Mercy is grateful for the Schott Foundation's support as Mercy continues its 90-plus year tradition of educating young women.

Mother of Mercy is proud to provide a place where technology and technology resources are readily available and where learning is enhanced and strengthened.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Lisa Mahon Fluegeman
Public Relations Director
Mother of Mercy High School
3036 Werk Road
Cincinnati, OH 45211
(513) 661-2740, ext. 304
(513) 661-1842 (fax)
fluegeman_l@motherofmercy.org

Westwood Citizens on Patrol

For a membership application, or to report issues of concern-
Call (513) 218-5286

Our Motto-

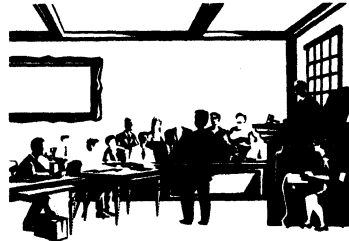
"Get involved, stay involved, make a difference"



A Community-based Division of the Cincinnati Police

Westwood Court Watch

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Go ahead- It's ok if you want to make copies of the application form below. We know how much you want to help increase membership! Feel free to pass them out on your street. We won't mind at all!



WESTWOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

ZIP CODE _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

FAX NUMBER: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

NUMBER OF ADULTS IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD (VOTING MEMBERS): _____

CALL ME FOR: VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES _____ FUND RAISERS _____

Annual dues are \$10.00 per household. Make your check payable to "Westwood Civic Association" and mail to:

WCA, P.O. Box 11466, Cincinnati, Ohio 45211

Or you could save a stamp and bring this with you to the next meeting- we'd be happy to see you!



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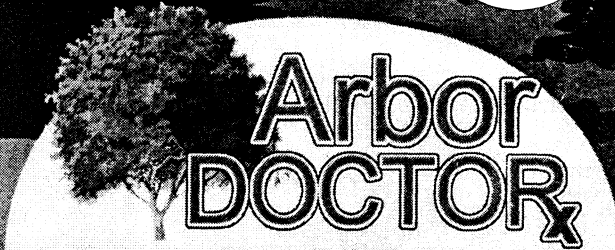
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