

GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP- WESTWOOD- SAT. APRIL 26- MORE INFO- WWW.KEEPCINCINNATIBEAUTIFUL.ORG

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March 2008

www.westwoodcivic.org

Volume 38, Issue 3

#### Presidents Message-

Get ready for some fun in Westwood. The NEP (Neighborhood Enhancement Program) will be in our neighborhood May 15th to August 15th. This will bring resources from every city department, plus some outside agencies. We will focus on a predetermined area of our neighborhood (map on page 7), and really make a difference. We will go block by block, street by street, and house by house in the target area, and find solutions to some of the problems. In order to be successful, we will need participation from the community. (That means you.) Please come to the April 15 meeting to learn more, and to join in on the excitement.

**\$250,000-** and that's just for starters! Cincinnati City Council just passed an ordinance that sets aside money to

(Continued on page 2)

## Survey Says.....

Inside this newsletter you will find a twopage survey. Please take the time to complete it, and mail it back to us. This survey will be used to help us with our 2008 Westwood strategic plan. We are making progress in our neighborhood,



and completing this plan will help us "Kick it up a notch" by clearly communicating our goals and

needs to the city.

If you want to be a part of the planning process, drop us an email, or call 662-8560. The next planning meeting will be Monday April 7, 7:00 pm at Westwood Town Hall.

# 2008 Westwood Home Tour



The Westwood Historical Society, along with Presenting Sponsor US Bank, is pleased to announce the 4<sup>th</sup> biennial Westwood Home Tour which takes place on Sunday, April 27.

The selection of homes being featured mirrors the delightful diversity of homes found in Westwood. They range in age from those built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century to a vintage mid-century modern home whose kitchen remodel received design recognition. Explore homes with simple lines, to intriguing octagonal rooms, to creative rehabs in settings that range from a busy street corner to a woodsy retreat. Also on the tour will be Westwood's fire station, Engine Company #35. This favorite neighborhood landmark is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The self-guided tour runs from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The tour starts at Mother of Mercy High School (use new Epworth Avenue entrance).

Tickets are \$12 on the day of the tour and can be purchased at the High School.

Advance sale tickets are \$10, available from April 1 to April 26, at Henke Winery (3077 Harrison Avenue) and US Bank Westwood-Cheviot Office (3168 Harrison Avenue).

#### Just in!

Ted Meyer from Metro will be at our April 15th meeting to answer your questions about the recent route changes.

For more information, go to www.westwoodhistorical.org, or (513) 483-4722.

The tour has received generous financial support from a number of businesses and individuals including Presenting Sponsor, US Bank, and Home Sponsors: Rick and Holly Finn of Coldwell Banker West Shell, Cagney, Weisker & Associates, and Pete and Mark Minges of Neidhard Minges Funeral Homes. The tour

munity groups: WestCURC, Westwood Civic Association, Westwood Citizens on Patrol, and Westwood Concern.

also receives tremen-

tance from other com-

dous support and assis-

Volunteers are still needed. Contact Liz at 662-1156 if interested.

The Westwood Civic Association "Student of The Year" Awards to be presented at the April 15 WCA meeting.

Principals from nine Westwood schools will each select a student to receive the WCA annual award. Students, parents, and principals will be there for the presentation. Please come show your support of these outstanding students.

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President's message (Continued from page 1)

acquire and demolish blighted buildings in Westwood. After our highly successful project last year that got rid of 4 blighted apartment buildings, we now have the funding to expand the program. Wait— it gets better. Council is now considering, and is expected to approve an additional \$750,000! in TIF (Tax Increment Financing) money to go after even more blight. That means we should soon have a Million Dollars to take a serious bite out of the blight. As we did last year, we intend to ask the city to rezone the properties to Single Family which will help us improve the percentage of owner-occupied single family homes in Westwood.

The **Montana Avenue** improvement project is still on hold until the city department of Transportation and Engineering completes their study of the "Road Diet" concept that we recommended to them. They are working on bringing in an expert on the subject to address the neighborhood. Stay tuned...

Want to help Westwood and have fun? How about competing to win \$5,000 for Westwood in Mayor Mallory's *Cincinnati Cup* of the Soap Box Derby? For more information call Doug Newberry at 885-1373.

As usual, there is too much going on in Westwood to fit into one newsletter. Anyone want to start a weekly? I hope to see you at one of the many upcoming activities.

If you missed our March meeting, you missed a lot. Don't miss out in April.

-Jim McNulty

# Westwood Library

Thank you so much for supporting the Westwood Branch Library's book sale in March. We raised over \$2,000 for the Friends of the Library, which will help fund our programs and keep your Library "free and public."

We couldn't have done this without the strong support of the community. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped out all weekend, setting up, working, and breaking down the book sale. We are so lucky to have such wonderful neighbors who will pitch in and help. Thank you, thank you!

Kathy Bach and the staff of the Westwood Branch 3345 Epworth Ave 513-369-4474 www.cincinnatilibrary.org

662-9109

Come visit the Library during open hours: Mon, Tue, Thur 12-8 p.m. Wed, Fri, Sat 10-6 p.m. closed on Sundays

# Cucinnati Cucreation Commission

#### Westwood Town Hall 3017 Harrison Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio 45211

Madcap Puppets Presents: "The Dreamweavers"

Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> 2 PM \$5/person

Two dream sprites, the sprite of nightmares and the sprite of good dreams, want to create their own dreams. They escape from their boss, the Sandman, and put the whole audience to sleep! The dreams they create combine stories from around the world.

#### **NEW DAYTIME CLASSES:**

TAI CHI Tuesdays beginning April 8th through May 27th, 10:30 -11:30 am. \$8/person

Tai Chi means body and mind in harmony and helps with movement, focus, longevity, improving memory, reducing blood pressure, relieving stress and more.

SCRAP BOOKING Fridays 10 am-1 pm Free with membership.

Please bring your own supplies.

**SUMMER DAY CAMP REGISTRATION:** A few spaces remain in some of our Day Camps. Registration will remain open until camps are full. Camps cost \$758 for the summer, which includes your child's \$8 center membership. A deposit of \$275 is required at time of registration with the balance paid in full by May 30<sup>th</sup>.

We offer <u>Summer Day Camps</u> for 6 – 12 year olds. <u>Sports Camp</u> is for ages 8-11 years with an emphasis on Sports and Team Activities—Includes Red's Rookie Success League and the Hershey Track Meet. We also offer an <u>Outdoor Adventure Camp</u> for ages 10-12 year olds. This is designed for the active child who loves hiking, nature programs, the outdoors, and getting dirty. ALL camps offer swimming and field trips too.

Camp runs from Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> thru Friday August 15<sup>th</sup>, from 7 am – 6 pm or any time frame in between. Children are required to pack a lunch, drink & snacks daily.

# Westwood Strategic Plan Survey

The Westwood Civic Association is implementing a strategic planning process. A well-developed strategic plan will enable Westwood to communicate neighborhood priorities and goals to the city in order to access funding, resources, and the city services.

As a resident of Westwood, your participation in this SWOT Analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) is key to the success of this planning process.

Over

*  *  Threats: List the threats you believe will face Westwood in the next five years that may significantly hinder its success.  *  *  Threats: List the threats you believe will face Westwood in the next five years that may significantly hinder its success.  *  *  *  *  *  *  *  *  *  *  *  *  *			Opportunities: List the opportunities you believe will face Westwood in the next five years that may significantly influence its success.
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Cincinnati, Ohio 45211

#### WCA MONTHLY STATEMENT January 2008

#### **INCOME:**

N.S.P.:

\$660.00 Membership

Invest in Neighborhoods

**TOTAL INCOME:** \$660.00

#### **EXPENSES:**

TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$905.54
Misc. (Larosa's)	\$50.00
Misc. (BWC)	\$50.00
Neighborhood Dev. (grabbers)	\$411.80
Postage/Mailings	\$67.48
Newsletter	\$326.26

\$3289.16 Checking Account Balance:

2457.65 Savings Account Balance:

CD Balance:

\$7261.48

Submitted by:

James D. Huhn. Treasurer

# Westwood Historical Society

**Next Meeting:** 

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

7 PM

Westwood First Presbyterian Church (3011 Harrison Ave)

Greg Kissel will do a presentation on James Robb. Mr. Robb has been a footnote in Westwood history because his farm was the end point of the Cincinnati & Westwood Railroad. However, his life was anything but a footnote. Learn about this man who rubbed elbows with presidents and European royalty, owned banks, utilities, and railroads in New Orleans, and had one of the largest art collections west of the Alleghenies.

#### **Print Works**

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#### WCA OFFICERS

Term: April 2007- April 2008

#### PRESIDENT-

*Jim McNulty	662-8560
VICE PRES	

\*Melva Gweyn......481-0761

VICE PRESIDENT-

\*Randy Hammann......662-6070 | RECORDING SECRETARY-

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY-

\*Scott Gehring.......675-3005 TREASURER-

\*Jim Huhn......481-6545

\*Kathy Bach \*Rick Boyd

\*Mary Kuhl

\*Trent Lewis

\*Dave Cook \*Sr. Ann Rene McConn

\*Dick Finn \*Jen Gehring \*John Sess

#### **Upcoming WCA General Membership Meetings**

**April Steering Committee meeting** April 8, 2008 7:30 pm WW Town Hall

April Regular Meeting-

April 15, 2008 7:30 pm WW Town Hall

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

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

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

#### "QUOTE" OF THE MONTH

A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him.

#### **David Brinkley**

#### 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

# WCA Spotlight on Small Business



Uniques

3243 Harrison Avenue Westwood, Ohio 45211 (513) 662-4466

Owners: Pat and Hank Brockmeyer Hours of Operation: Wednesday through Saturday 11am to 5pm

Pat's husband encouraged her to start a business because she had been collecting since she was 18 years old. Apparently her collection was too interesting (or too large) for only a family to enjoy. And so with her husband's prodding, Pat brought *Uniques* to Westwood in 1993. The business started in a small space on Harrison Avenue. Shortly thereafter, a quaint historic storefront building with an upstairs apartment on Harrison became available. Pat and Hank purchased the property at 3243 Harrison Avenue and have operated and lived at the site ever since.



Uniques sells small antiques and collectables. Pat's focus is on smaller, reasonably priced items that are not commonly found in today's marketplace. Pat specializes in items in pristine condition, items in original boxes, unused linens, and other "treasures" to fill your home.

There is not a retailer in the area that maximizes their space like Pat does. Crossing the threshold is like entering a time machine, with the store owner only a few feet away as your guide. Pat loves what she does. If you visit, you are likely to encounter one of her regulars popping in to see what new offerings Pat has displayed. Pat's personality, demeanor, and love for her work are worth the visit even if you don't find something that day. If she can not assist a customer with an item or service she probably knows someone who can.

Pat started her business and lives in Westwood because

"she always loved Westwood, it is a great place to be". She sees Westwood as "a friendly community with down to earth people". She enjoys interacting with her customers and making new friends with similar interests. She sees her role as a small business owner in Westwood as a contributor "to a nice environment, keeping up her property and making it appealing". Pat takes pride in her area and works hard to keep her business and the surrounding area appealing. She picks up litter, tends to flower baskets, and keeps the sidewalks weed free. Pat regularly attends community meetings and shares her observations as a small business owner with Westwood organizations and the city. Her latest suggestion is for an affordable restaurant to fill the void that Rondo's left. The restaurant and unique shopping in the area were a natural fit. Perhaps you know someone that would be able to join our business district.

Recently Pat and Hank purchased an adjacent building on Harrison that had fallen into disrepair. They made necessary improvements to the property, which provides parking for her business and her tenant. Pat and Hank also were instrumental in bringing a former business back to the area. *Edie's Vintage Clothing* moved to Glenmore a few years ago. When Edie's Glenmore building was sold, Pat and Hank created space only a few doors down from the original location.

Westwood is fortunate to have small business owners like Pat. Westwood Civic Association appreciates our local businesses and encourages you to support them. Please contact WCA if you would like to see a business featured, have comments or suggestions on existing businesses, as well as informing WCA of a business you would like to see in Westwood.

grandparents.

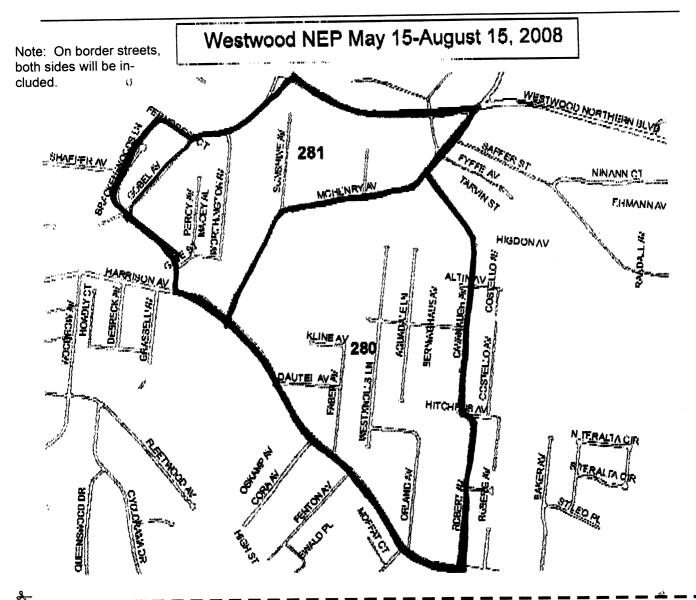
### Mother of Mercy High School and



Mercy Franciscan
Hospital have been
working in partnership
for the past few
months. Almost 100
Mercy students have

shadowed or attended career seminars at the hospital. The students were given an overview of the entire hospital and all of the health-related careers available with an emphasis on nursing positions including the requirements to become a nurse and the best programs in Cincinnati. Sessions also focused on all therapy departments, including physical therapy (in-patient as well out-patient), occupational, speech, cardiopulmonary and aquatic therapies. Mercy students realized the challenges which patients face in re-

covery as they experienced handson work in each area. Mercy is one
of the few hospitals to offer aquatic
therapy in Cincinnati, and students
were amazed by the pool area and
the entire facility, but mostly by the
dedication and kindness of the
staff. Several members of the staff
are Mother of Mercy
alums as well as
Mercy parents and



# WESTWOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Jonquii
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ADDRESS:
ZIP CODE PHONE 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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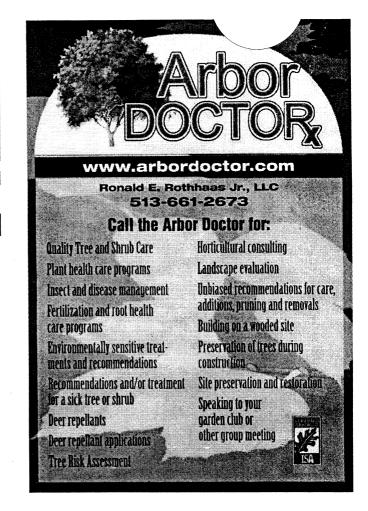
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#### West Shell

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www.cbws.com/holly.finn

**⊕**B





#### Westwood Civic Association P.O. Box 11466 Cincinnati, Ohio 45211

Return Service Requested

# Take the survey!

Please find the two-sided survey inside, and fill it out. This survey will be used to help us complete the 2008 Strategic Plan for Westwood. This plan will help us communicate our goals to the city, and will accelerate the progress we can make in Westwood.

PRESORTED STANDARD US POSTAGE PAID CINCINNATI, OH PERMIT NO 2372