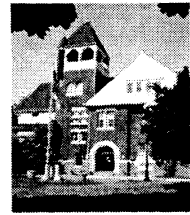




WESTWORDS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION



Join our email list by contacting- info@westwoodcivic.org

February 2009

www.westwoodcivic.org

Volume 39, Issue 2

President's Message

If you can read this, thank Becky Weber. Becky took over as publisher of our newsletter- Westwords. Becky has also been lining up new advertisers and I'm sure you have noticed all the new ads. Please remember to shop our advertisers whenever possible. Thanks Becky, for doing a great job.

We have many issues on the table, as you will see throughout the newsletter.

The Cincinnati Public School Board ruled against us on the Westwood school addition, and they intend to build it on the Harrison Avenue side of the existing building. WCA's position is to build the addition on the Epworth side, to try to keep the historic district looking nice. We still have a small bit of hope that we can prevail with the city, since they need approval from the zoning department in order to build it on either side. We have taken up our case with them. If you have any ideas on reversing the decision of the school board, please let us (and them) know. (See story on page 2)

Our new Westwood Strategic plan is now ready to be taken out of committee, and moved forward toward passage by the city. Having this document in place should help to prevent confusion about how we want our neighborhood to look going forward. It should save us a lot of time fighting for/against projects that might benefit or hurt our neighborhood. For example, with the Montana Avenue project, we could have saved two years of meetings, hearings, and hundreds of emails, if we had a clearly stated policy on road improvements. We will be discussing our new plan at our regular meetings, so please join us.

Speaking of Montana Avenue, we are once again meeting with the Department of Transportation and Engineering to implement the "Road Diet" concept. After all this time, it looks like we are really going to get the project we want- three lanes instead of four, a narrower footprint, and a safe, efficient, pedestrian-friendly road.

One more thing- The federal government is getting ready to dump many millions of dollars into our city. We need to be ready with a plan on how best to spend the money in Westwood. We need to make sure that this money helps improve our neighborhood. (continued on next column)

We will continue to fight for blight removal as a top priority. We are currently making a street-by street inventory of blighted properties in Westwood. We will be working with the city to get rid of as many of these (non-historic) blighted buildings as possible. Our long-term goal is to have 60% owner-occupied single family homes in Westwood. We currently have 40%. Demolishing blighted apartment buildings, and only allowing new single-family homes will go a long way toward this goal.

See you around the neighborhood-
Jim McNulty

WESTWOOD TO RECEIVE FEDERAL FUNDS

Westwood is one of 10 neighborhoods selected to receive federal funds through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. The City combined data from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and City Sources. Based on criteria established by the City and HUD, Westwood and nine other neighborhoods will receive these funds.

The city will focus on the following eligible uses of these funds:

- Financing mechanisms for purchase and redevelopment of foreclosed upon residential properties
- Rehabilitation of homes and residential properties that have been abandoned or foreclosed upon in order to sell rent or redevelop these properties.
- Demolition of blighted buildings



Members of the Westwood Civic Board have been canvassing all of Westwood to identify these properties. You may have seen one of the board members walking through your neighborhood. Don't be alarmed. They are out there identifying properties that we may be able to have rehabilitated or demolished through this program.

Do you have a house in your neighborhood that you think we should know about? If so, please email www.westwoodcivic.org



STEVE CHABOT CELEBRATION Mary Kuhl

On Monday Jan 12th Westwood Concern, Powr Pac and the Electrical Contractors of Greater Cincinnati P.A.C. hosted an event for Steve Chabot at Price Hill Chili. If you were there, you were

among the hundreds of people who stopped by to personally say Thank You to Steve Chabot for his 14 years of service in Congress. Whatever your party affiliation you know that Steve Chabot served our communities well with honesty, integrity and hard work always thinking how his votes would affect the lives of the citizens in his district. By the way, if you have not noticed Steve has opened his law office on Harrison Ave. Again thank you Steve for your service.



Westwood School Centennial Celebration Liz Kissel

On Saturday afternoon, June 13, we will be celebrating the 100th birthday of Westwood School even though it will be closed for renovation. Details are still being worked out but the activities will be held next door at the Westwood First Presbyterian Church.

Mark your calendars and tell your friends, especially any school alumni or staff. We'd love to highlight any famous (and infamous) alumni and find the oldest living graduate. If you have any questions or information, you can contact Liz Kissel (662-1156) or e-mail at info@westwoodhistorical.org.

Westwood Historical Society Meeting
Cincinnati Street Railway Scenes
February 11, 2009
Westwood First Presbyterian Church
7:00 pm

Enjoy a look back to earlier days of Cincinnati mass transit at the Wednesday, February 11, meeting of the Westwood Historical Society. Phil Lind will present a slide show of photos of the Cincinnati Street Railway and Cincinnati Transit Company which preceded Queen City Metro.



Westwood School Update...

On January 12, 2009, after members of WCA attended the Cincinnati School Board meeting to persuade the board not to construct the new addition to Westwood School on the Harrison Avenue side of the school building, the board decided to vote against WCA. (WCA wants the addition on the Epworth side of the school.)



One of our board members attended a meeting on January 26th to reiterate the position of Westwood Civic Association, the school board decided they had no reason to change their position.

Cincinnati Public School board officials stated they would not require any variances or zoning changes in order for the building to be built on the Harrison side of the school. However, a request for a variance to this property for fence height, fence opacity and signage was submitted just two days later. WCA is opposing this zoning change.

You can make your position be heard by contacting any Cincinnati Public School board member. See below for their email addresses.

Michael Flannery - flannem@cps-k12.org
Catherine Ingram - ingramc@cps-k12.org
Eve Bolten - Boltone@cpsboe.k12.oh.us
Susan Cranley - cranles@cpsboe.k12.oh.us
Chris Nelms - Nelmsch@cpsboe.k12.oh.us
Melanie Bates - batesme@cps-k12.org
Eileen Cooper Reed, Pres. - reedeil@cps-k12.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

*We make our friends; we make our enemies;
but God makes our next door neighbor.*

Gilbert K. Chesterton
British Author

SPOTLIGHT ON:

TOM BONHAUS AUTO SERVICE

It is often said that good help is hard to find. The purpose of this article and others like it is to highlight the many businesses that call Westwood home.

I first heard of Tom Bonhaus Auto Service from dropping off my sister in-law to pick her up or drop her off for her car repairs. She always spoke highly of the quality of service and professionalism. I grew to know him from various civic activities. Tom is the kind of person that the more you know him, the more you like him. Even the most ill-tempered would find difficulty trying to find something bad to say about him.

Tom Bonhaus Auto Service is located at 3151 Harrison Avenue, where he has been since February of 1983. For the past twelve years, he has been assisted by Mr. Royce Long. Mr. Bonhaus previously operated a service station at the corner of Queen City and Boudinot, the current location of a United Dairy Farmer, where he opened his business in 1973 during the gas shortages. He was at that location until 1980, when the location became cost prohibitive.

I asked Mr. Bonhaus if his vocation was a family tradition, and was surprised to learn that it was not his first career selection. His father was a man of mechanical ability, but had a "dim view of garage work." He had aspirations of white-collar work for his son. Tom made an effort to be a part of that world, earning a B.S. in Administrative Science and Marketing. He secured a white-collar job after graduation; but when his child failed to recognize him after an eight-day business trip, this caused Tom to desire a change in vocation where he could be closer to his family. This inclination coupled with a longtime desire to own his own service station, was the origin of Tom Bonhaus Auto Service. The field of car repair has allowed Tom Bonhaus thirty-five years of self-employment, and plans to pursue that vocation for at least five more years.



Adorning the wall of this service station are two photographs that captured my attention, forcing me to inquire about them. The first is a picture of a group of gentlemen in a garage setting that includes the father of Mr. Bonhaus. His father told him to hang it up to give the impression that Tom was a second-generation mechanic. The second photo is from his original location, and features Tom, a Texaco sign freshly taken down, and an AAMCO sign to be put up. His father, whom intended the picture to document the end of the Texaco era, took the photograph. When Tom relayed this story to me, the significance of the photographer seemed to greatly overshadow the moment captured.

Mr. Bonhaus could not express enough to me that he loves what he is doing and "truly enjoys fixing cars." He also asked me to express how grateful he is for the "customers and patronage from the people of Westwood."

This article is presented not as an advertisement or endorsement, but for informational purposes only.

Five Questions with Tom Bonhaus:

1. Favorite Movie: The Sound of Music
2. Favorite food: Italian
3. Favorite Restaurant: Prima Vista
4. Person you would most like to meet: Already done, Richard Petty
5. Favorite Car that you owned: 1967 Cadillac convertible that he owned for 33 years. He just sold it in November.

Montana Avenue Committee Formed	New Mercy Hospital
<p>Curtis Hines from the Department of Traffic and Engineering attended our January 20th Westwood Civic Association meeting. Mr. Hines requested a committee be formed to discuss the implementation of the "Road Diet" to Montana Avenue. The committee will include members from the Civic board, residents of Montana Avenue and representatives of DOTE.</p> <p>The committee will determine if there are sections of Montana Avenue that can accommodate alternating on-street parking or bus niches without impacting residential properties. The result should be a safe, pedestrian friendly neighborhood street that improves the livability and quality of life for all its residents.</p>	<p>Mercy Hospital announced they will build a new hospital on a 60 acre site on North Bend Rd. near Interstate 74 behind St. Ignatius Church.</p> <p>Mercy Hospital still needs approval of local governments and its own board.</p> <p>The new hospital will replace both Mercy Franciscan, Western Hills and Mercy Franciscan, Mt. Airy.</p> <p>This new location hopes to make the hospital more accessible to everyone and gain access to more patients from Hamilton County's Westside.</p> <p>The current hospitals located in Westwood and Mt. Airy may offer doctor offices, ambulatory care facilities and clinics, however final decision is yet to be made.</p>

Westwood Civic Association Monthly Statement December, 2008

Revenue

Mayor's Recycle Challenge	\$1,250.00
Keep Cincinnati Beautiful	859.69
Membership	840.00
Donation	500.00
Advertising	60.00

Total Revenue **\$3,509.69**

Expenses

Harrison Ave. Flags	\$1,800.00
Newsletter	637.34
I Love WW T-shirts	418.55
Good Guy Loitering	164.01
Montana Ave. Mailing	127.71
Miscellaneous	121.70

Total Expenses **\$3,269.31**

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE \$12,780.18

SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE \$3924.80

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT \$5,000.00

Westwood Civic Association Monthly Statement January, 2009

Revenue

NSP	\$2,014.72
Membership	320.00
Miscellaneous	20.41

Total Revenue **\$2,355.13**

Expenses

District 3 Anniversary Plaque	\$319.50
Website Design & Layout	300.00
Newsletter	166.18
Miscellaneous	60.22

Total Expenses **\$845.90**

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE **\$14,289.41**

SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE \$3924.80

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT \$5,000.00

WESTWOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME(S): _____

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!

WCA OFFICERS
Term: April 2008- April 2009

PRESIDENT-

*Jim McNulty.....662-8560

VICE PRESIDENT-

*Melva Gweyn.....481-0761

VICE PRESIDENT-

*John Sess.....481-1957

RECORDING SECRETARY-

*Joel Kimmet.....389-0858

TREASURER-

*Valerie Baumann.....

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY-

*Irene McNulty.....662-8560

***WCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Kathy Bach

*Rick Boyd

*Dick Finn

*Randy Hammann

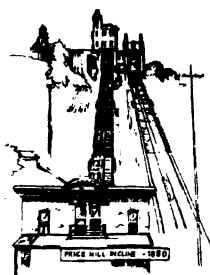
*Mary, Kuhl

*Brian Lee

*Trent Lewis

*Sr. Ann Rene McConn

*Becky Weber



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

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Deer repellent applications	
Tree Risk Assessment	



**Upcoming
Westwood Civic Association
Meetings**

2/10 Steering Committee

2/17 Regular Meeting

3/10 Steering Meeting

Steering Committee Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month. **7:00 PM WTH**

Regular meetings are the third Tuesday of each month **7:00 PM** Westwood Town Hall.

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

Westwood Branch Library

You are invited to join On the Same Page, Cincinnati's 8th annual community reading program February 8–March 31. Our selection for adult readers is *The Soloist: A Lost Dream, an Unlikely Friendship, and the Redemptive Power of Music*, by Steve Lopez. This 2008 nonfiction title is based on LA Times columnist Lopez's newspaper articles about musician Nathaniel Anthony Ayers, whom he met on LA's Skid Row. Ayers studied at Juilliard before developing schizophrenia and spending decades on the streets. The book is an inspiring story of music and friendship, as well as a compelling examination of homelessness, mental illness, public policy, and race in America. Reviewers have named *The Soloist* one of the best books of 2008.

The On the Same Page Launch and Reception, featuring a talk and book signing by author Steve Lopez, musical performances by the College Conservatory of Music, refreshments from Panera Bread, and an information fair with community organizations serving people who have mental illnesses or are homeless will be held on Sunday, February 8 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Main Library.

Join us at the Westwood Branch Library for these exciting programs!
For information on any of our programs, please contact us at 369-4474.

For Adults

Cozy Winter Nights Movie: *Ghost Town* (Rated PG-13)
Thursday, February 5 at 6 p.m.

Evening Book Club: *The Soloist* by Steve Lopez
Thursday, February 26 at 7:00 p.m.

For Kids:

Preschool Storytime
Story fun with Ms. Nancy!
every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.
Ages 3-6



DDR for Tweens!

Join us afterschool and get moving with Dance Dance Revolution!
Now on the second Monday each month!
Monday, February 9 at 3:00 p.m.
Ages 8-12

Mardi Gras Celebration!

Tuesday, February 24 at 6:30 p.m.
Ages 6-12

BINGO for Kids

Play for fun and fabulous prizes!
Tuesday, February 26 at 6:30 p.m.
Ages 6-12



Read to Reel Movie!

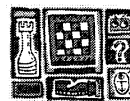
Third Wednesday every month at 3:30 p.m.
Ages 9 and up
February 18 feature: *Shrek the Third* (Rated PG)

For Teens:

Club Teen

Candymaking!
Thursday, February 12 at 6:30 p.m.
Ages 12-18

Teen Job Fair: Meet local area employers, and pick up applications!
Saturday, February 21 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Ages 15 and up



Teen Game Day

Monday, February 23 at 3:00 p.m.
Ages 12-18

Programs made possible by the Charles H. Dater Foundation, The Friends of the Public Library, and the Kersten Fund. For more programs at other library locations, check out our program calendar: <http://www.cincinnati.library.org/programs/calendar.html>

Westwood Branch Library

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Westwood Town Hall News:

Authentic African Masks Show

Westwood Town Hall

3017 Harrison Avenue

February 23, 25, & 27th 10 am-1 pm or 3 - 5 pm.

FREE VIEWING--Please call 662-9109 for more information.



Marlene Trapp

Service Area Coordinator
Cincinnati Recreation Commission
Westwood Town Hall
3017 Harrison Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45211
513.662.9109 FAX: 513.662.9761

Joe Goeldner's Private Collection of Authentic African Tribal Masks. He has over 100 in his collection and we'll show as many as we can fit. Display area: Main Hallway and Parlor.

Various Tribes represented are: Yaka; Dan; Makonde; Bwa; Dogan; Mende; Mossi; Bobo; Senoufo; Wobe; Bete; Ibibio; Lega; Fang; Punu; Suku; Chokwe; Kuba; Biombo; Salumpasu; Songye; Hemba; Bembe; Ewe; Pende; Bamana; Burkino Faso; Bamlike; Toma; Benin; and many more.

ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING--DON'T FORGET TO RECYCLE YOUR CANS IN THE BIG BLUE BIN IN THE PARKING LOT. (ADULT BEVERAGE CANS ACCEPTED, TOO.)

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRTRATION begins March 16th and continues until full

Ages 6-12 and Teen Camp 13 & 14 years old. Wednesday, June 10 thru Friday August 14th.

Summer Camp (6-12 years--5 if they have attended all day kindergarten in 2009) is 5 days a week program from 7am-6 pm and includes Sports (9-12 years), and Outdoor Adventure Camps (10-12 years) as well. Cost is \$865 for the summer + Membership (\$8 and \$5 pool token=\$878 total) \$275 deposit due at registration. Includes most Field Trip admissions and special events fees.

Teen Camp (ages 13 & 14 only) (Must be 13 by June 16 and not turn 15 until after August 6th) Consists of two 4 week sessions: June 16-July 9 and July 14-August 6. Camp meets from 10 am until 5 pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays. Each session costs \$450 + \$8 Membership & \$5 pool token or \$850 + for both) and includes most HIGH ADVENTURE FIELD TRIPS Admissions. This is a very physically active camp and not meant for couch potatoes. \$275 due at registration.

Please call 662-9109 for further information or for a full schedule of events. New spring programs begin in Mid March.

ELECTION NOTICE

Save the dates:

June 27 & 28



2009 "WestFest",
the "Biggest
Street Festival" on
the West Side of
Cincinnati.

This annual event is
sponsored by the Cheviot
Westwood Community
Association.

The organizing committee is
actively looking for bands to
perform at the annual street
bash.

Chairperson is also needed
for their ARTS & CRAFTS
booth.



Westwood Civic Association
will be sponsoring a booth at
this event. More details to
come.

Five people were nominated as board members of the Westwood Civic Association. Since there were only 5 members nominated there is no need for an election. Four members have served on our board, previously, and we have one new member. Thanks to all of you for stepping forward to serve our community.

Mary Kuhl
Sr. Ann Rene McConn
Nicholas Hollan

Brian Lee
Jim McNulty

Our newest board member:

Nicholas Hollan



Westwood homeowner
Professionally and personally committed to
community service

1. A fundraiser professional for the American Red Cross
2. I raise over \$1.25 million for United Way
3. United Cerebral Palsy Board Member
4. Volunteer with JDRF
5. Volunteer with American Red Cross following Hurricane Katrina
6. Politically active
7. Member of Westwood Civic Association for the last two years.

Glad to have you aboard!!!

HONDA

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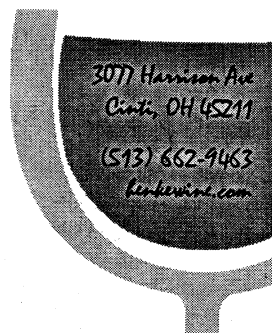


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