



WESTWORDS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION



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January, 2010

www.westwoodcivic.org

Volume 40, Issue 1



Update from WestCURC Sr. Ann Rene McConn & Kathy Bach

About fifty Westwood residents, business owners, and students gathered at Town Hall on Thursday, November 5, 2009 to hear how Westwood is going green. We had a terrific panel available to answer questions and share information about how to make Westwood's historic homes more energy efficient. WestCURC would like to thank everyone for coming out to this highly informative gathering. This was just the first step in our efforts to green Westwood. Keep checking our facebook page and our website for information on a follow-up to this month's meeting.

WestCURC recently signed a contract with the City of Cincinnati to rehabilitate 3 homes and build 2 new homes. We have purchased our first house right on Boudinot Ave. It's a sturdy little home and we're working hard to update it and make it energy efficient. The after rehab appraisal is \$115,000. When updated it will have new roof, new energy efficient furnace, AC, hot water heater, and appliances, sturdy insulation throughout. 2.5 baths, three large bedrooms, walk-out basement with play space in basement. The first of many updated and family friendly homes! First time homebuyers buyers with home buyer counseling certificate are welcome to call Sr. Ann Rene at 481-0431 or e-mail mcconn718@yahoo.com to discuss a purchase or ask questions.

Remember the video we did for the You52 Challenge? Although Westwood was not selected as a finalist, our video is outstanding. It can be viewed on our new and improved website or on our facebook page.

The Westwood Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation's (WestCURC) mission is to actively facilitate economic, social, and cultural development in our community. We work closely with residents, community leaders, business owners, and city officials to promote investment in Westwood. We focus on real estate development, beautification, promotion, and collaboration.

Check out our NEW website online at: <http://westcurc.com>
Become a fan on facebook! Search "WestCURC" from your facebook page.

A Day In the Life of Me... Saturday, January 2, 2010

I got up at 9:00 AM after a tough night of watching the Bearcats struggle against the Gators. Following breakfast, I stoking the woodstove, went to Marty's Plaza Barber Shop for a haircut and then to Kroger for some groceries. Eating breakfast while doing a load of laundry afforded me time to check and answer my emails. Donning my warmest coat, hat and gloves, I set out for my adopted area for litter patrol; the ramp from I-74 to Montana. After filling a large trash bag with droppings from those less considerate folks, I removed four yard signs from the right-of-way and headed for the dumpster. Feeling a sense of accomplishment and civic pride, I headed home. Turning onto my street I noticed my neighbor Tom sitting in his truck across from his house. I stopped to chat and he told me he was watching a compact car with Kentucky plates and three occupants parked several houses away. I drove past it and noticed a pick-up truck with Ky. plates in front on my house. A moment later, a guy in a Hyundai rolled up to the pick-up and hands the driver something and the truck immediately drove off with me staring at them. The Hyundai then rolled up to the compact car and pulled next to it when Tom and I converged on them. The Hyundai left immediately, so we engaged the occupants of the compact car in some light conversation. For some reason, they seemed rather skittish and left abruptly. Now District three has some more license plates to track down.



What a life!

John Sess
President
Westwood Civic Association

As I begin to write this, my mind wanders to a time when I was not a board member, but a regular attendee at the Westwood Civic Association board meetings. A couple sat in the back that were a few years my senior, and during the meeting they announced to the board and those attending that it was their intention to open a winery in Westwood at the former Window Garden restaurant location. I would get to know both Joe and his wife Joan Henke over the years since those meetings. I hope this will be an introduction to both the establishment as well as the owners, for those unfamiliar with either. For those familiar with the Henkes, this may give the reader a chance to see different sides of these Westwood gems.

Joe Henke started his winemaking craft as a hobbyist in 1973. At the time, he was working as a programmer and machinist for Cincinnati Milacron. Honing his winemaking skills with other hobbyists, and then under apprenticeships of Arnie Ester and Chris Stamp. Mr. Henke sees winemaking as an unusual art where the winemaker is involved with the grapes from August through October, and the winemaker sees the result over two years later. He compared it to reading a very long novel, with the inability to skip to the end.

Henke Winery and Restaurant was founded in 1996 in the Spring Grove Village/Winton Hills area of our City. That location was the start of the labor of love that is Joe Henke's commercial winemaking career. As mentioned before, when the Window Garden location became available, the Henkes had secured the location. While interviewing Joe, I asked why they "selected Westwood for their new location?" I was surprised to learn that Joe and Joan Henke had been residents of Westwood since 1979. They had literally brought their passion, vocation and livelihood to the community they hold in high-esteem.

Converting the location into an urban winery and restaurant was a challenging task. The couple purchased the venue in October of 2001. They stripped down the restaurant and, after working extremely hard, opened their new location within one month. Henke Winery has a goal to serve food that is to the high standards that Joe has for his wines. The Executive Chef Scott Guynup and two assistant chefs are responsible for the food preparation. Beside Joe and Joan, at least one of the six servers on staff serves customers. Henke's senior server is a petite blonde-haired woman named Holly, who has an energetic and fun personality. She has worked there on and off for the past five-and-a-half years. Serving customers at this restaurant has family ties to it, as her cousin Rebecca also works with her as a server. No matter which staff member you get, in my opinion, it is a win-win situation.

The menu ranges from casual foods to fine dining, enjoyed in a casual atmosphere. It is the proprietors' goal to greet the guest with a smile, and give them an entire dining experience, from appetizers, through the meal and desert. Their services include wine tastings, complete meals, and wine sales. Food is not available for carryout, but you are always welcome to take the remainder of your leftovers home with you. You can even take home the remaining contents of a bottle of wine, and the staff will re-cork the bottle and seal it in a paper bag, so it can be enjoyed later.

Speaking of wine, Henke Winery has received many awards for their efforts of its winemaking craftsman. In 2009 at the Ohio Wine Competition, Henke Winery was awarded four gold medals, three silver, and three bronze. Ten wines were entered into the competition and each were award winners, including the Overall Best of Show. In the National Best of Appellation Competition (2009), Westwood's native winery submitted three wines for completion and all three were awarded two gold medals each. These wines were the Norton, 2008 Vin de Rouge, and the 2008 Vidal Blanc.

In 2009 International Wine Competitions, Henke Winery has received the following:

Riverside International Wine Competition (Riverside County, California) One Silver and one Bronze medal

International Eastern Wine Competition (Elmira, New York) One Silver and two Bronze Medals

Indy International Wine Competition (Indianapolis, Indiana) Three Gold, two Silver and one Bronze Medal



This just summarizes 2009. If Joe and Joan Henke wore all the medals awarded for their winemaking efforts, they would be in the running for a Mr. T look-alike competition. There are many other larger awards adorning the walls. Westwood's resident winery has been featured in *The Western Hills Press*, *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, and *USA Today*.

I asked Westwood's winemaker what appeals to him about his business. He enjoys the challenge to make the highest quality wine that he can, the reaction of his customers to the food and wine, and getting to know customers. Joe likes to think of his restaurant as having a "Cheers" like atmosphere.

Henke Winery and Restaurant also provides a venue for local musicians and artist. Most weekends has an individual or small group performing in a backroom as a sound system pumps the music to the other rooms. The art on the walls rotates works from different artists and photographers, with many pieces available for sale.

Customers also are able to tap into their creative energies with the Annual Cork Art Contest. This competition has yielded such creative contributions as a functioning clock, an incredible model of a pirate ship, a model merry-go-round and a small-scale knight's helmet with visor. Decorating the Christmas tree in the entry are many cork-crafted ornaments made by customers. A range from reindeer and wreaths to a tiny manger with a Baby Jesus inside made from a single cork.

Both my wife and I enjoy Henke Winery and Restaurant, and highly recommend it. Joe, Joan and their staff always makes our meals there a very positive experience. I strongly urge everyone to try Henke Winery and Restaurant. I would suggest multiple trips, so you can find your favorites. I tried to pin-down Joe as to his favorite wine that he crafts, but I was unable to convince him to place one of his "babies" above the others. I know the Cellar Blush is the most popular among my extended family. Other Henke's best sellers include their Cabernet and the Vin de Rouge.

Henke Winery and Restaurant is located at 3077 Harrison Avenue, at the corner of Epworth and Harrison. Their phone number is 513-662-9463 or ON2-WINE is more easily remembered. Their website is www.HENKEWINE.com.

Five Questions with Joe Henke:

1. What is your greatest accomplishment? **Winning best wine in the State for three years running.**
2. Any hobbies you would like to share? **Stain Glass making.**
3. Favorite Westside Hangout? **Santorini Restaurant**
4. Favorite Dessert? **Blueberries**
5. Favorite Movie? *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*

The U.S. Census Bureau is NOW HIRING



The U.S. Census Bureau is opening a new office in your area and will begin operations for conducting the 2010 Census. This is an exciting opportunity to enhance your job skills, further your career and improve your community!

Call Toll-Free at:
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Or go to: www.census.gov/detroit
for more information on how to apply.

US Census Office Regional Job Openings:

Office Staff —

Fall 2009 & Early 2010

Office Clerk --- \$8.25-12.50 per hour
 Recruiting Assistant --- \$12.25-18.00 per hour
 Administrative Assistant --- \$9.75-15.00 per hour
 Office Operations Supervisor --- \$11.25-17.00 per hour

Field Staff — Early 2010

Enumerator --- \$10.75-16.50 per hour
 Crew Leader --- \$12.25-18.00 per hour
 Crew Leader Assistant --- \$10.75-16.50 per hour
 Field Operations Supervisor --- \$13.75-19.50 per hour

**Westwood Civic Association Monthly
Statement December, 2009**

Revenue

NSP	\$4,130.14
Keep Cincinnati Beautiful	226.04
Membership	190.00
Total Revenue	\$4,546.18

Expenses

Nat'l Flag Co.	\$2,600.00
(Westwood House Flags)	
Welcome to Westwood Signs	1,210.00
Flag Contest Awards	\$500.00
Newsletter	414.62
Nat'l Flag Co. (KCB)	237.25
Christmas Dinner	54.61
Total Expenses	\$5,016.48

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE \$12,259.30

SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE \$3,933.54

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT \$5,000.00

Submitted by: Valerie Baumann, Treasurer

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For information on placing an ad, contact:
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bmimmy@aol.com or

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

Bach
Happy New Year!

2010 Featured Book of the Month Series

The Library will ring in the New Year with a new edition of its Featured Book of the Month Series. Based on the success of the inaugural series for adults in 2009, the 2010 series will feature a selection for readers of all ages! One fiction or nonfiction title will be chosen for children, teens, and adults to read and enjoy each month. These well-written books offer broad appeal, but you may not find them on a bestseller list. They represent the seemingly overlooked literary triumphs in the Library's collection. January's selection for children is *The Underneath* by Kathi Appelt; for teens, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie; and for adults it's, *Farewell, My Subaru* by Doug Fine, who will visit the Main Library on February 6 as part of the 2010 Author Series. Keep your eyes peeled for the Featured Books each month at your local branch!



what's new
A New Chapter in
Convenience:
Playaway® Digital Audiobooks

As part of a free trial program offered by the manufacturer, the Library began offering Playaway® digital audiobooks in six Library locations on November 23. This 90-day trial run will provide an opportunity for the Library to gauge the interest and demand for the new format and selected titles. During this time customers are invited to check one out and inform Library staff whether they like this new way to listen to audiobooks. **What are Playaways®?** At about half the size of a deck of cards, Playaways® come preloaded with an entire audiobook. You don't need a separate player to listen to the book and you don't have to worry about keeping track of several CDs or cassettes— just press play! Using clearly marked buttons, Playaway® makes it possible for you to move back and forth within or between chapters and alter the speed of the narrator's voice. It even has an automatic bookmark feature that remembers where you left off. Weighing only two ounces, Playaway® is small enough to fit in the palm of your hand and goes anywhere you do! The Library's trial collection consists of approximately 100 fiction titles, including books by James Patterson, Nicholas Sparks, Jennifer Crusie, Stephen White, Harlan Coben, Sara Paretsky, Jean Auel, David Baldacci, and Lisa Kleypas. For more information about Playaways®, go to: www.CincinnatiLibrary.org/news/2009/playaways.html.

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

<p>~~~~~</p> <p>For Adults</p> <p>Jazzercise Demo</p> <p>Is improved fitness part of your New Year's resolution? Get a jump-start on it with a Jazzercise Express class. Wear comfy clothes (not jeans) and athletic shoes, bring water, and prepare to work up a sweat to your favorite music.</p> <p>Teens & Adults</p> <p>Saturday, January 9 at 11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Evening Book Club: <i>Blue Boy</i> by Rakesh Satyal</p> <p>Thursday, January 28 at 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>~~~~~</p> <p>For Children:</p> <p>Toddler "Movers & Shakers"</p> <p>Music and movement for toddlers every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Ages 12-36 months</p> <p>Monday Movie Break!</p> <p>School is out, but we are open on MLK day. Join us for a movie and popcorn!</p> <p>Feature movie: <i>Hannah Montana: The Movie</i> (Rated G)</p> <p>Monday, January 18</p> <p>2:00 p.m.</p> <p>Ages 6-12</p>	<p>EVENING BINGO for KIDS</p> <p>Tuesday, February 2</p> <p>6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Play for fabulous prizes!</p> <p>Ages 6-12</p> <p>*****</p> <p>For Teens:</p> <p>Chocolate Taste-off!</p> <p>Do you know your chocolate? Discover old favorites and new flavors and decide which one you like best.</p> <p>Thursday, January 14 at 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Ages 12-18</p> <p>Valentine's Crafts using Conversation Hearts</p> <p>What says "Be My Valentine" more than conversation hearts? Make a gift for your valentine, a family member, or yourself. Several projects will be available—with and without the colorful candies. Sign up and then drop in between 5 and 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Thursday, January 14 5-8 p.m.</p> <p>Ages 12-18</p> <p>*****</p> <p><i>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.cincinnatiLibrary.org/programs/calendar.html</i></p> <p>Westwood Branch Library Hours of Operation: www.cincinnatiLibrary.org</p> <p>3345 Epworth Avenue Mon. Tues. Thurs. 12-8</p> <p>513-369-4474 Wed./ Fri./Sat.: 10-6</p>
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Cincinnati Recreation Commission

Marlene Trapp
Service Area Coordinator

Westwood Town Hall 3017 Harrison Avenue
662-9109

MADCAP PUPPETS: "Look Out Galileo" Saturday, January 23 at 2 pm.
Still a real bargain at ONLY \$5/pp.

Spanish Classes will start on Monday, February 1st instead of previously announced date. Spanish classes and culture for little ones ages 3-10 years will be held twice weekly (M & W) for ½ hour each class. One class a week is only \$4 and twice a week is \$7. They will sing, dance, learn American Sign Language, hear stories, perform drama, all while learning to speak Spanish. Great for home schooled children.

The Drama Workshop returns in March with the play "Comic Potential". Tickets can be purchased on line by going to www.thedramaworkshop.org or by calling 598-8303. Show dates are March 5, 6, 11, 12, & 13 at 8 PM and March 3 & 13 at 3 PM.

Pilates takes a break from Mid January till March, so work off those Holiday pounds with one of our other classes—Yoga, TaeKwonDo, or Clogging.



Preschool registration starts on January 7th at 10 am and is ongoing until classes are full. Don't miss out on these reasonably priced activities.

CROCHETING: Wednesdays, beginning January 20 at 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Only \$2/class. Learn how to crochet or work on your projects while chatting with friends.


COPPER ENAMELING CLASS: Every other Monday evening beginning January 11th. 6:30-8:30 pm \$8/class
Teens –Seniors All Supplies provided for initial class—then students provide some supplies themselves—Catalogue available to order from. Make some personalized jewelry—one of a kind. Unique class. Joe Goeldner, Instructor.

Check out our full program guide at www.cincyrec.org. New classes have been added for youth and teens. Don't forget about our standards either:

Sewing, Magic, Afterschool Camp, Homeschool Art, Double Dutch, various Arts & Crafts, and Passport to Fishing.

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**Upcoming
Westwood Civic Association
Meetings & Events**

1/12 Steering Meeting
1/19 Regular Meeting
2/9 Steering Meeting
2/16 Regular Meeting

Steering Committee Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM, Westwood Town Hall.

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

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

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