



WESTWORDS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION



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November, 2010

www.westwoodcivic.org

Volume 40, Issue 11

Rousing Support for the Gamble House

Liz Kissel

The Livable Communities Committee came to Westwood on November 3, to conduct a public hearing on the possibility of the City exercising eminent domain to take the James N. Gamble house. Despite relatively short notice, word got out via e-mail blasts, flyers, news coverage and word of mouth. Close to 300 people packed Midway School, many standing in the hall. It was an incredible turnout. They came from Westwood, Cheviot, Bridgetown, and Monfort Heights. They traveled from Downtown, Kentucky, Clifton, Kenwood, Mason, College Hill, and yes, Indian Hill. Not everyone there supported the idea of eminent domain but the majority supported the idea of saving the house, and their very presence conveyed that message to the Committee and to Carter Randolph from Greenacres Foundation who attended but did not speak at the hearing.



About two dozen people gave heartfelt testimony about the importance of the house. Some even shared family antidotes about Mr. Gamble. Each person had a unique take on the same message – Save The House. If sincerity and numbers impress the folks in City Hall, they had to have been impressed.

A big thank you to everyone who came and to those who helped to get the word out. In particular, Bob Prokop's flyer and pleas through the Save the Gamble House Facebook group were very instrumental in bringing people to the meeting. And speaking of thanks, now is a good time to send e-mails and letters to the committee thanking them for holding the meeting in Westwood and encouraging them to continue their efforts to help save the Gamble House.

Next Steps

The lawyers in the City Solicitor's office will work through the legalities of whether all the elements exist to justify the taking of the house and/or the entire property by eminent domain. If they determine the conditions exist, Council will hold another hearing to vote on whether to proceed, so watch for another opportunity to show up in force, probably at City Hall. There are a number of steps that then must be followed and court hearings that take place. In other words, it is a long process. In the meantime, we will continue to appeal to Greenacres to sit down at the table with Cincinnati Preservation Association and the community to come to an agreeable resolution.



The fall 2010 Make a Difference Day Cleanup at the Westwood Town Hall was the best cleanup in 8 years of community effort. It was a beautiful day. With over 65 volunteers everyone worked together to collect about 50 bags of leaves, sticks, garbage, pruned plants.

Thanks to the following volunteers:

from **Mercy High School-**

Kayla Grosheim, Ashley Sizemore, Samantha Hines, Kerri Davis, Allie Binder, Jennifer Peterman, Sydney Gordon, Niah Cook, Jenn Prout, Jane Eby, Eno Crawley, Megan Sheehan, Emilee Fisher, Alesea Ronnebaum, Laura Raphael, Molly Stowe, Chelsea Koenig, Liz Kenkel, Sara Staggs and Zoe Scott.

from **LaSalle High School-**

Zachary Obert, Josh Streicher, Ryan Schoenung, Robby Herbert, Sam Samoya, Chris Unkrich, Jacob Whyte, Anthony Wieck, Andrew Yauch, Adam Moeller, Robbie Suer, Brandon Henderson, Alex Carroll

from **Elder High School-** **Ian Seitnel, Henry Mangrove, Dominic Scarlato, Ryan Bihl, Antonio Fautroy, Lee Lutz, Curtis Johnson**

from **St. Catherine's 2nd Grade Girl Scout Troop & moms - Emma & Sue Mastruserio, Lainey Ryan, Makaeka Dettmer, Grace and Kerry Spieser, Kerrie Lee, Mary Jane and Emily Horn, Deanne Ryan & Benji Ryan, A.J. Ryan, Abby Henson**

These wonderful volunteers were guided by a small dedicated group of WTH garden volunteers who have consistently given of their time and effort.

Thanks to **Valerie Baumann** who helped fertilize the plantings, **Mary Fichter** who with some Mercy students beautified the garden bed at Harrison and Montana, and **Stuart Golder, Gary and Becky Weber** who organized all the male workforce on mulching and edging many garden beds.

Melva Gweyn worked on the flower pots along Harrison which beautify our community (she has spent countless hours this year planting and watering them).

Becky Weber also deserves our thanks for working with **Dominos Pizza on Glenmore (Thanks Dominos!)** to get discounted pizza for all of our volunteers - she along with **Melva** helped get plenty of bottled water and I supplied some candy bar pick-me-ups.

John Sess with some of the students cleaned up around the Montana exit at I-74 which really benefited from their efforts.

Thanks also to **Marlene Trapp** who directs the WTH for Cincinnati Recreation Center who arranged for staff member **Tranae Alexander** to keep the building open for our use.

Special recognition goes to our most dedicated volunteer this year- **Jim Hoog**. The summer long drought would have left all of our gardens in pitiful shape if not for his watering the corner gardens, rose garden and other areas at least **2 times a week for months**. This is a difficult and time consuming task as it takes 2-3 hoses to reach out to the gardens and the water pressure is weak so it takes a while to get sufficient water to make it worthwhile. He also did a lot of weeding and deadheading, donated and planted mums and pansies. We all thank you Jim and appreciate your efforts.

WCA wants to give Peg Rhein a special thanks for all her efforts to organize this event and for taking excellent care of the WTH grounds throughout the year.

See next page for more pictures from "Make a Difference Day"

WCA Christmas Party - Friday, December 10 - Palominos

Happy Hour 5 - 7 pm Dinner 7 pm

Please RSVP - 661-3216 or bmimmy@aol.com



My fellow Westwoodians,

Thank God the elections are over! Watching the TV ads made me think only liars, cheats, scoundrels and people having bad hair days were running for office. Sorting through the rhetoric, I found a kernel or two of truth which guided my hand at the ballot box, but it wasn't easy. If you still see political signs in the neighborhood, please remove them.

We had a great turnout October 23rd at the Town Hall for Make A Difference Day. **Peg Rhein** sent out the bat signal and about 60 volunteers showed up for a fun day of leaf raking and sprucing up on a gorgeous fall day. A special shout out to **Jim Hoog** who was in attendance, but also watered the flower gardens continuously during the two-month-long drought. Without Jim's efforts, the flowers would have been long dead. Students from Mercy, Elder, LaSalle, and Saint Catherine did a great job!

We're still trying to save the Gamble estate while at the same time trying to tear down 2570 Harrison, a 44 unit eyesore near Woodrow Avenue. We'd like to save the single family homes while razing the problem apartment buildings. As always, your WCA board members are working hard for you to keep our neighborhood a great place to live, work and raise a family.

I ♥ Westwood,
John Sess

Do you Remember... (A piece of nostalgia for Westsiders and Cincinnatians alike)

Trent Lewis

- ◆ S&H Green Stamps? All those books that people would fill before the envelope moistener was invented.
- ◆ gas station give aways that included china, piggy banks, and toy cars and trucks? A friend of mine told me Texaco would give away fireman's helmets. Those were the days of the oil company owned stations.
- ◆ the Ford Granada?
- ◆ Skipper Ryle? I really like the idea of local television personalities that are not news related. Syndicated programming has eliminated the niches that so many local entertainers would fill.
- ◆ the Elder vs. West High games on Thanksgiving day? That would seem like a west-side bowl game.
- ◆ the Plummet Mall?
- ◆ "There will be no Melvin's on your job."
- ◆ being a child and watching the different thanksgiving parades on television.

Hope everyone had a happy Halloween! If you haven't been in to see us lately, stop in see all the fun fall hapenings at your library. This month we feature a historical display by Westwood resident, Phil Lind. Phil worked for the Metro Transit Authority for 33 years retiring in 2006. He has been researching the history of mass transportation in Cincinnati for the past 33 years. Phil has so kindly lent us his personal collection of streetcar photographs. Come see these wonderful pictures from the 1940s and 1950s in full color for a limited time in our display case.

NATIONAL BESTSELLER

READING LOLITA
IN TEHRAN



Book Club – Thursday November 18 at 7:00 pm – Adults
This month's selection is **Reading Lolita in Tehran** by Azar Nafisi

Every Thursday morning for two years in the Islamic Republic of Iran, a bold and inspired teacher named Azar Nafisi secretly gathered seven of her most committed female students to read forbidden Western classics. As Islamic morality squads staged arbitrary raids in Tehran, fundamentalists seized hold of the universities, and a blind censor stifled artistic expression, the girls in Azar Nafisi's living room risked removing their veils and immersed themselves in the worlds of Jane Austen, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Henry James, and Vladimir Nabokov. In this extraordinary memoir, their stories become intertwined with the ones they are reading. Reading Lolita in Tehran is a remarkable exploration of resilience in the face of tyranny and a celebration of the liberating power of literature.

November Programs:

Photographic History of Cincinnati Streetcars – Thursday November 4 at 7:00 p.m. – Adults



- o Learn about the fascinating history of Cincinnati's streetcars with Westwood resident Phil Lind.

Christmas Craft Drop-In -- Wednesday November 17 at 3:30 p.m. – Teens Registration Required

- o Get a jump on your holiday gift giving. Stop in and craft something for either yourself or a friend. Materials & directions for various seasonal projects will be provided. Craft ideas welcome in advance.



National Gaming Day—Saturday November 13 at 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. –All Ages

- o Play Wii and PS2 games in the meeting room and play board games upstairs in our children and teen areas.

Ornament Making for Kids—Tuesday November 23 at 6:30 p.m. – Ages 6 – 12 Registration Required

- o Get ready for the holidays and join Susan Yarbrough for making clay ornaments!



Movers & Shakers – Every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. – Ages 12 – 36 months

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The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County will be closed on Thursday, November 25, 2010 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Programs made possible by the 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.org/library/programs/calendar.html>

Westwood Branch Library	Hours of Operation:	
3345 Epworth Avenue	Mon./Tues./Thurs.:	12-8
513-369-4474	Wed. Fri./Sat.	10-6

Westwood Citizens on Patrol
A COMMUNITY BASED DIVISION OF THE CINCINNATI POLICE

For a membership application
or to report issues of concern

WestwoodCOP@aol.com
OR
Call: 513-352-3533

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Email: lterry@gccu.org

Cincinnati Recreation Commission

Westwood Town Hall Recreation Center
3017 Harrison Ave 662-9109
For a full listing of our programs please visit
www.cincyrec.org

November & December events at the Westwood Town Hall Recreation Center:

The following do require CRC center memberships:

CLASSES:

Clay Hand building--Holiday Themed - for 7-14 year olds. Fri-10/22-11/19 4:00-5:30 pm \$30/session
Limited space available.

Adult Sewing--Fri.- 6:30-8 pm \$265/month now is your chance to learn how to sew! Make some Holiday Gifts.

EVENTS:

Youth:

Fancy Nancy Tea Party: Ages K-12 years - Thursday - 12/23/2010 - 10 am-noon - \$5/child.

Pirate Party: Ages K-12 years - Thursday - 12/30/2010 - 10 am-noon - \$5/child.

In both of the above cases, dress for the occasion.

Kid's Day Out: Ages K-12 years - Tuesday - 12/21/2010 - 10 am - 4-pm - \$15/child

Kid's Day Out: Ages K-12 years - Tuesday - 12/28/2010 - 10 am - 4 pm - \$15 child

Holiday Ceramic Gift Workshop: Ages 7-12 years Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, December 20, 21 & 22.
4-5:30 pm \$25/all three days or \$15/1 day. Decorate a mug and plate or bowl or one of the three.

Community Event:

SANTAFEST---Friday December 10--6:30-8 pm a family event. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Many things to see and do: Visit with Santa, Have some refreshments, make some crafts, play some games, sing some songs. and take lots of pictures of everything there is to see. Still Only \$2/pp. A can't miss event. Great for family Holiday photos. Memberships not needed for this event.

WISH LIST:

We are looking for a YOGA Instructor and BALLET Instructor. If anyone is interested, please have them call the center at 662-9109.

Any Holiday blow-ups you might want to get rid of or donate, we would put to good use. We could also use a small electric train to complete our village scene for Santa fest! Anyone care to donate!

**Westwood Civic Association Monthly
Statement October, 2010**

Revenue

Art Show Grant	\$300.00
Kiwanis Membership	200.00
WCA Banners	80.00
Advertising	60.00
Membership	50.00
Donation	50.00
Total Revenue	\$740.00

Expenses

Newsletter	\$399.93
Advertising	300.00
Kiwanis Dues	200.00
Western Economic Council Dues	50.00
CRC, Make a Difference Day	30.00
Miscellaneous	10.00
Total Expenses	\$989.93

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$13,965.49
SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$3,943.38
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT	\$5,000.00

Submitted by Valerie Baumann, Treasurer

WCA OFFICERS

Term: April 2010 - April 2011

PRESIDENT-

*John Sess.....481-1957

VICE PRESIDENT-

*Melva Gwecyn..... 481-0761

VICE PRESIDENT-

*Becky Weber.....661-3216

RECORDING SECRETARY-

*Mitch Neeld.....891-4546

TREASURER-

*Valerie Baumann.....

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY-

*Irene McNulty.....662-8560

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

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

**Upcoming
Westwood Civic Association
Meetings & Events**

- 11/9 Steering Meeting
- 11/16 General Meeting
- 12/10 WCA Christmas Party
- 12.14 Steering 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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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!

Amanda J Caldwell
Independent Beauty Consultant

3421 McFadden Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45211
Phone: 513-319-9184
Fax: 513-481-0462
acaldwell@marykay.com
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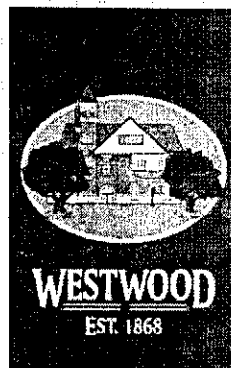
WESTWOOD CIVIC BANNERS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

The banners are now available from our contest held this past winter.

The cost of a banner is a very low \$20.

To purchase one of Westwood's banners, please email your request to Becky Weber at bmimmy@aol.com.

Or come to our next general meeting on November 16 and make your purchase.



WE DELIVER