WESTWOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION



WESTWORDS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION



The Westwood Civic Association Celebrated Our First Hundred Years 1911- 2011 and We're Still Going Strong!

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

June, 2012

ww.westwoodcivic.org

Volume 42, Issue 6

From The President's Desk:

Dear Westwood Residents,

Happy June and Happy Summer to all! As we begin the summer season, there is a lot happening in Westwood! The plants and flowers are really growing at the Westwood Community Gardens and at the Westwood Town Hall! The weather is warm! We hope you are all doing well and staying active.

Speaking of staying active, we are actively looking for many volunteers to help us in Westwood. Whether it is with attending meetings, or supporting several upcoming activities, or serving on a Westwood Civic Association Committee, we need volunteers! Please come and attend our two June Meetings. The Steering Meeting is on June 12th, at 7:00 pm, or the General Meeting on June 19th, at 7:00 pm, both at the Westwood Town Hall. The meetings are great places to learn about what is going on around the neighborhood. At a meeting, we will recruit you to help us with an activity or committee.

We have the following list of Westwood Civic Association Committees: The Buildings and Properties Committee, the Infrastructure Committee, The Business District Committee, The Public Safety Committee, The Promotion and Membership Committee, The Preservation Committee, The School Enhancement Committee, The Finance Committee, and the Outreach Committee. We are actively seeking volunteers from the neighborhood to help us on these committees. You do not have to be a Board Member of Westwood Civic Association to serve on a committee. Any Westwood resident, who is a member of this Association may serve on a committee. To inquire about a specific committee, either come out and attend one of our June Meetings, or send us an email at info@westwoodcivic.org. We will gladly sign you up to serve on a committee, and get you started with some great volunteer service!

In addition to our committees, we are always looking for volunteers to help us with the Westwood Community Gardens, and attending other meetings, including occasional Cincinnati City Council meetings, Chronic Nuisance Meetings, and other important events that are occurring this summer.

Come out and join us at WestFest in Cheviot! This is similar to a

large street fair, and is occurring on June 23rd -24th, in downtown Cheviot on Harrison Avenue. Come out and join us at the Westwood Civic Association Booth! We will have our infamous "Mug Slide"! Come support the Mug Slide Event, visit our booth, and support your neighborhood! On our website:

<u>www.westwoodcivic.org</u>, is a list of upcoming activities, meetings and events. There is a lot to do to make our neighborhood better and more active.

June is a month to get active, and to support your neighborhood! We need your support and lots of volunteer help! It's fun to work with fellow neighbors and residents! Happy June!

"Look to the West, For the Best!" (It's a Great Day in Westwood!)

Sincerely, Joel Kimmet President, Westwood Civic Association



Vaste The West Side!

Downlown Chrylok. Open

WESTFEST - 2012

Westwood Civic Association will once again participate in Cheviot-Westwood Community Association's WestFest with our famous and fun Mug Slide with chances to win cash. Mark your calendar: Saturday, June 23 from 1 p.m. to midnight and Sunday, June 24 from 1 – 10 p.m.

WCA welcomes its members to help staff the booth and support WCA. Please email info@westwoodcivic.org to volunteer.

We thank Tom Bonhaus Automotive for its sponsorship of our WestFest booth.

WestCURC Sr. Ann Rene McConn

I read the other day that older people can keep their minds and memory sharp –"step by step."

Researchers put together a study including a large number of people over 55. They asked them to walk about six blocks each day – just step by step – no particular speed. The great majority experienced a much improved memory and mental agility. They concluded that even slow walking improves blood supply to the brain.



WestCURC has applied for a grant to begin improving the Harrison Avenue "business district" near the intersection of Harrison and Urwiler – across from the Bell Building. We are collaborating with Mr. Benkert who now owns the property. We intend to spruce up the 4 business properties and hopefully to find an entrepreneur who wants to open a restaurant at the corner of Urwiler and Harrison. Mr. Benkert has agreed to remove the semi truck that sits on the corner, and this parcel will be transformed into a garden-type outdoor seating arrangement. Residents can walk a few blocks and enjoy the company of their neighbors and families – and improve their mental agility while they enjoy coffee and tasty food! — All of this if we are lucky over the summer!

Car Maintenance Tips for Cleaner Air

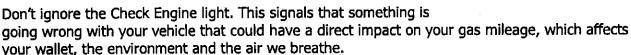
Maria Butauski, Public Relations Intern, Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency

Most of us rely on our cars every single day to get from point A to point B. Since we rely on our cars so heavily, it is extremely important for good air quality to keep our cars well maintained.

A well maintained car will be a more energy efficient car. Here are some tips on keeping up with your car maintenance:

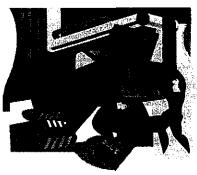
- ♦ Check/change oil regularly
- ♦ Check your tire pressure
- Make sure your tires are in good condition

These tips will help keep your car running the way it needs to be, but the best advice that can be given is to fix what is broken.



If cars are not maintained they use more energy, thus using more gas and putting more pollutants than necessary into the air.

Car maintenance will help our community achieve better air quality. Remember to check on your car regularly and respond in a timely manner when the Check Engine light is flashing. For more information visit the Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency online at SouthwestOhioAir.org or interact with us on Facebook (www.Facebook.com/SouthwestOhioAir) and Twitter (www.Twitter.com/SWOhioAir).



A White Rabbit in Westwood

When replying to the question What is Westwood's Number 1 Problem?, some might guess "foreclosed properties" or "crime." Others might say "absentee landlords" or "poor zoning." After eleven years of patrolling in Westwood, my answer is "complacency."

While Westwood's community infrastructure is robust with the Westwood Civic Association, Westwood Concern, Westwood Historical Society, Westwood Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation, and Good Guy Loitering, the total number of members or volunteers in these organizations is less than 1,000 people. With Westwood's population topping out at 35,730, that means that only 3% of its residents are involved in making their neighborhood a better place to live. That percentage defines complacency or "A feeling of contentment or self-satisfaction, especially when coupled with an unawareness of danger, trouble, or controversy."



Getting involved, however, doesn't necessarily mean joining an organization or running for office. It means picking up the litter on your Administrative Coordinator street, calling in suspicious activity to District 3 (263-8300), notifying

Duke Energy for burned-out streetlights, and adopting a vacant lot or abandoned property. It might also mean starting up a Block-Watch in your neighborhood, planning a block party, or organizing a litter cleanup.

Lewis Carroll lampooned the problem of complacency in Alice in Wonderland. The White Rabbit gets so excited and confused when Alice grows so tall that she breaks through the roof of his house, he says to a bystander, "Don't just do something, stand there!" We laugh, knowing he meant to say, "Don't just stand there, do something!"

Interested in "doing something" with Westwood Citizens on Patrol? Email our unit and leave your name and address, and we'll mail you a brochure and application: WestwoodCOP@aol.com; or call P.O. Princess Davis at (513) 352-3533.



Bruce McClung Westwood Citizens on Patrol

Would you like to join one of Westwood Civic Association Committees?

We are actively seeking volunteers from the neighborhood to help us on these committees. You do not have to be a Board Member of Westwood Civic Association to serve on a committee. Any Westwood resident, who is a member of this Association may serve on a committee. Please find below a list of our committees and their responsibilities. To inquire about a specific committee, either come out and attend one of our meetings, or send us an email at info@westwoodcivic.org. We will gladly sign you up to serve on a committee, and get you started with some great volunteer service!

Buildings & Properties Committee

- Blighted buildings
- Land Banking
- Recruit developers

Infrastructure Committee

- Infrastructure improvements
- Gateways
- Clean up days
- Yard of the Month
- Flags, rocks, gardens
- Community gardens

Business District Committee

- Collaborate with WestCURC
- Attract business
- Establish Architectural Review Board
- Seek funding to support business
- Zoning issues

Public Safety

- Fire
- District 3
- Support COPP's
- Court Watch
- Block Watch
- Good Guy Loitering
- Liquor licensing

Promotion and Membership Committee

- Seek funding for marketing to various media
- Newsletter-advertisements
- Harvest Home Fair
- West Fest
- Annual Dinner, Christmas Dinner

Preservation Committee

Advocate for buildings in the historic core be renovated in an historically sensitive manner.

- Oversee renovations of historical build-
- Make resources available for homeowners who wish to renovate their homes in a historically sensitive ways.
- Build a database of information about homes and structures in Westwood

School Enhancement Committee

- Award dinner for students
- Work with Westwood and Midway to become premier schools
- School board decisions effecting Westwood
- Support fundraising efforts

Outreach Committee

Reach out to churches and social programs in our neighborhood.

READING ROCKS 'N' REWARDS THIS SUMMER

The stage is set for your senses to sing as you engage in the pleasure of reading during June and July as part of Summer Reading. Whether you're two or 102, enjoy reading (or listening) to whatever books strike your fancy and earn prizes just for keeping track of your time spent reading or the books read. An exciting line-up of free programs will add to the fun. Participating is easy! Just visit http://www.cincinnatilibrary.org/summerread to register and start logging your reading from June 1-July 31. Then come to any Library location and claim your prizes! The more you read, the more chances you have to win grand prizes including a family 4-pack of tickets to a Cincinnati Reds game or Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra performance. Plus, much more!

LUARN SIGN LANGUAGE

Are you interested in learning American Sign Language? The Library's new online resource, Signing Savvy, offers high resolution video instruction for signing letters, words, and phrases. It includes the ability to view large sign videos, build your own word lists and share them with others, create virtual flash cards and quizzes, print signs, and more. http://www.cincinnatilibrary.org/news/2012/signingsavvy.html

Programs:

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

Adult Book Club-Thursday June 28 at 7:00 p.m.

This month's selection is Honeymoon with My Brother by Franz Wisner

This is the true story of Franz Wisner, a man who thought he had it all- a high profile career and the fiancée of his dreams-when suddenly, his life turned upside down. Just days before they were to be married, his fiancée called off the wedding. Luckily, his large support network of family and friends wouldn't let him succumb to his misery. They decided Franz should have a wedding and a honeymoon anyway- there just wouldn't be a bride at the ceremony, and Franz' travel companion would be his brother,

<u>Duck Tape People</u> – Tuesday, June 5 at 2:00 p.m. – Ages 6-12 Make your very own people from Duck Tape!

Duck Tape Mania - Tuesday, June 5 at 6:30 p.m. - Teens

Get crafty with Duck Tape and make a rose pen. Karen Long will show you how.

Computer Open Lab — Thursday June 7 at 10:00 a.m. — Adults Registration Required

 Bring your questions, we have some answers! We can help you with general computer basics, typing instruction, setting up a free e-mail account, Microsoft 2007, and resumes and online job applications.

Family Literacy Open House - Saturday, June 9 at 1:00 p.m. - Families

Start your summer off right at the Library with a fun Saturday
full of reading, crafts, music and snacks! Presented in partnership with The United Way's Women Investing in the Next
Generation (WINGS).

Wil and More - Monday, June 11 at 2:00 p.m. - Ages 8-12

Stop by and play your favorite video games!

Sidewalk Art For Kids Wednesday, June 13 at 2:00 p.m. - Ages 6-12

 Come up and decorate a sidewalk panel at Westwood Library!
 Chalk is provided. Program is outside, and will be cancelled if the weather is bad.

Birds of Prey - Thursday, June 14 at 2:00 p.m. - Ages 6-12

 Meet some magnificent creatures native to our area! Presented by the Hamilton County Park District.

Spending, Saving, Sharing for Kids! - Friday, June 15 at 10:30 a.m. - Ages 3-6

 This preschool storytime incorporates books and activities to help children learn the basics of financial responsibility. Sponsored by the PNC Grow Up Great Financial Education Initiative.

Wii Party - Saturday, June 16 at 2:00 p.m. - Teens

Stop by and play your favorite video games!

Karaoke for Kids - Monday, June 18 at 2:00 p.m. - Ages 6-12

Gather with your friends to enjoy singing lots of great songs!
 Be ready to sing and cheer on everyone else!

Library Babies - Tuesday, June 19 at 6:30 p.m. - Ages 6-18 months

Fun for you and your baby with songs, rhymes, stories and movement!

Read to Reel Movie - Wednesday, June 20 at 2 00 p.m. - All Ages

Stop by and enjoy a showing of The Muppets (PG) and some snacks!

Holly 's Harps-Thursday, June 21 at 6:30 p.m. - Ages 6-12

 Attendees will hear about the harp, listen to harp music and have a brief opportunity to learn it hands-on!

Book Time with Ronald McDonald - Tuesday, June 26 at 2:00 p.m. - Ages 6-10

 Ronald McDonald comes to visit to share his love of books and reading! Ronald brings a creative mix of music, magic, and games which reinforce the idea that reading is fun!

Bingo for Kids - Thursday, June 28 at 2:00 p.m. - Ages 6-12

Join your friends and play for fabulous prizes!

Preschool Storytime - Every Friday at 10:30 a.m. - Ages 3-6

 Enjoy books, songs, activities and more while building early literacy skills.

Movers & Shakers - Every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. - Ages 1-4

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

Westwood Branch Library 3345 Epworth Avenue 513-369-4474

Hours of Operation: Mon./Tues./Thurs.: 12-8 Wed./Fri./Sat.: 10-6



Does your complex recycle?

Michelle Balz, Community Outreach Coordinator, Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District

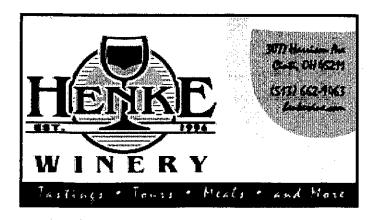
Hamilton County condominium associations, apartment dwellers and property managers are eligible for free assistance from the Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District (District) to organize a recycling program.

The Multi-Family Recycling Assistance Program provides technical assistance from the District and coordination of recycling services with your waste hauler. Additionally, the District will pay for the first year of recycling if the property agrees to continue recycling for two additional years.

Recycling could save you money! Implementing a recycling program may allow property managers to cut costs on trash collection. Recycling reduces waste output, which may reduce the number of trash pick-ups needed or reduce the size of the waste container.

The management team of Stetson Square in Corryville saved \$400 per month on trash hauling after successfully implementing a recycling program. Residents recycled enough material to reduce to one trash pick-up per month. Stetson Square now recycles about 19 tons every year,

A recycling program is an added amenity that can make your complex more desirable to current and future tenants. For more information please contact Michelle Balz at (513) 946-7789 or michelle.balz@hamilton-co.org or visit HamiltonCountyRecycles.org.



Gary's Westsider



3351 Glenmore Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45211

Westside tavern at the corner of Glenmore and Applegate for 17 years.

Upcoming Westwood Civic Association Meetings & Events

6/12 Steering Meeting 6/19 General Meeting

7/10 Steering Meeting 7/17 General Meeting

6/23 Westfest 6/24 Westfest

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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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 Cali: 513-352-3533

madeamp!

Are you looking for a new and totally unique summer camp for your child? Sign them up for Madcamp 2012!

Your child will work with professional puppeteers and puppet-builders throughout this fun-filled week to create a unique puppet or mask that they will learn to manipulate. In addition to building this creation, your child will also learn some basic acting skills, how to create voices for their character and storytelling techniques that they can use to put on a puppet show of their very own.

On the last day, your child will have the opportunity to show off their new skills (and their Madcap masterpiece!) to family and friends at our exciting, culminating event!

When: Monday-Thursday, June 25-28: 9:30 am - 2:00 pm Friday, June 29: 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm (final event will begin at 6:00 p.m.)

Where: Westwood Town Hall, 3017 Harrison Avenue

How Much: \$150 (includes daily snack, Madcamp t -shirt and pizza party on Friday)

Registration and Additional Information: www.madcappuppets.com/madcamp

Questions? Contact Mel Hatch Douglas at m.hatch@madcappuppets.com or (513) 921-5965, ext. 21.

Monthly Ad Rates

\$100.00 Full Page \$50.00 Half Page \$25.00 Quarter Page \$10.00 Business Card \$50.00 Insert Published 12 (more or less) 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: Becky Weber, Editor bmimmy@aol.com or

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

WCA OFFICERS

Term: April 2011 - April 2012

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*Karen Strasser......604-1167

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*Jill Minor.....

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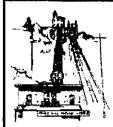
Cincinnati, Ohio 45211

Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00 (behind Thornton's Gas

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Fax: 922-8720

Station)



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NAME(S):	
ADDRESS:	
ZIP CODE	PHONE NUMBER:
E-MAIL ADDRESS:	
NUMBER OF ADULT	S 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!	

Angelo's Automotive

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Membership Update

Please look at your mailing label. If it says 2011, this could be your last issue. Please renew your membership today so you can keep abreast of all the good things happening in Westwood.