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Westwood Civic Association

WESTWORDS

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

April, 2013

www.westwoodcivic.org

Volume 43, Issue 4

From the President's Desk

Greetings Westwood Residents!

Happy April and Happy Spring! There are many activities coming up in Westwood this Spring and I will highlight a few of them in the paragraphs below. As always, we are always looking for volunteers. To get involved, to hear the latest news, and reports on upcoming activities, please feel free to attend a Westwood Civic Association Meeting. Once there, we can sign you up as a volunteer for an upcoming activity or event, or you will hear about the many projects, meetings, committees and other events we are involved in concerning the Westwood Neighborhood. Our Meetings are always on the 2nd and 3rd Tuesday evenings from 7pm – 9pm, at the Westwood Town Hall, 3017 Harrison Avenue. Upcoming Meetings are April 9th and 16th, and May 14th and 21st. We are looking for volunteers and helpers.

Annual Elections Dinner

Speaking of April 16th, the Annual Westwood Civic Association Elections Dinner is on the evening of April 16th from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm at Outback Restaurant located by the new Target Store at 6168 Glenway Avenue. You can join us for Happy Hour, from 6pm -7pm and dinner from 7pm -9pm. This event will take place instead of our regular General Meeting at the Westwood Town Hall. All Westwood Residents are welcome to come out and join us for dinner at the Outback! There will be a short business meeting at the restaurant on April 16th, but the main event will be enjoying a "night-out" with your neighbors and Westwood Friends!

Thank-You John Sess

After many years of service on the Westwood Civic Association, Mr. John Sess is taking some time off to spend with his family and his work projects! Please join me in thanking John for all his years of service on the Westwood Civic Association Board. I'm sure he will be back soon! John is a former WCA President and has worked on several WCA Committees, was instrumental in getting the City to put our new Firehouse at its new site and helped to create the Westwood Community Gardens. John, we hope you will not be a stranger and we'll see you at some upcoming WCA events!

Two New Board Members!

I would like to welcome Ms. Leslie Rich and Mr. Tom Hodges as new Board Members on the WCA Board. Leslie and Tom are both very active in Westwood, and I look forward to working

with them on some of WCA's Committees, work parties, events and projects! If you would like to meet Leslie and Tom, come out to a Westwood Civic Association Meeting and let them know about some of your neighborhood issues and concerns. All the Board members are here to represent the entire Westwood Neighborhood.

Westwood Community Gardens

The Community Gardens (2163 Harrison) is beginning to come alive for another Spring! If you are interested in helping us this year, please contact our Gardens Coordinator, Mary Jenkins. Mary's information is on our website: www.westwoodcivic.org. There are still garden plots available for this Spring and we have a few construction projects planned for the Gardens in the next few months, so if you like working outside, if you enjoy gardening or "Getting Dirty", which is our new motto, we can use your help at the Community Gardens this Spring.

We'll see you around the neighborhood and hopefully at one of the above listed events or meetings!
Have a safe and enjoyable month!

Sincerely,
Joel Kimmet, President, WCA

Annual Westwood Civic Association Election Dinner & Meeting

Tuesday, April 16th, 2013, 6:00 - 9:00 pm
Outback Restaurant

6168 Glenway Avenue

Happy Hour: 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Dinner: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

(A special section will be reserved for WCA members)

This will be in place of the regular General Meeting at the Westwood Town Hall.

Westwood Square? Form Based Codes? What's going on?

Have you heard about a new idea for the Harrison Avenue business district called Westwood Square? It all started with some neighborhood groups (WestCURC, Westwood Works, and Westwood Historical Society) working on a plan for a new way of doing zoning along Harrison Ave called Form Based Codes. Form Based Codes regulate the "form" of a building, rather than it's use, as in the current zoning system.

Anyway, the idea of re-routing Harrison Avenue around, and enlarging, the present triangle at Epworth and Urwiler started to take shape. The idea of a "Mount Lookout Square" in Westwood is intriguing, to be sure. You can almost see the people strolling around the square sipping a latte or enjoying some ice cream. This could be a great start to breathing new life into this area.

But there are still some things to consider before we go "all in" on this or any other development idea:

- How will these changes affect the existing businesses?
- Will there be any private property needed?
- Can a square be built without using Form Based Codes?
- Do we know enough about Form Based Codes and are we ready to let go of our traditional zoning system?
- Where will the money come from?
- Have other options/ locations been explored?
- Will Form Based Codes open the door for more multi-family housing in Westwood?
- Have we used all available city resources before resorting to spending neighborhood funds?
- And the big one— Has there been enough public involvement with this project? Do our Westwood neighbors and business owners know enough to proceed?

That's where the Westwood Civic Association comes in. As the recognized Community Council for Westwood, WCA is your forum for neighborhood issues. When WCA recently learned of an ordinance being escorted through City Council to spend TIF (Tax Increment Funding) money on a feasibility study for the square, the board of directors decided that we need to look into the situation and seek more public involvement. WCA will be a part of a coalition with other Westwood groups as we work through this process.

Please be assured that WCA values our neighborhood businesses. We can make a project that works for everyone, as long as cool heads prevail. Please come to meetings, and visit our Web site westwoodcivic.org and be a part of it all!

Jim McNulty, Westwood Civic Board Member

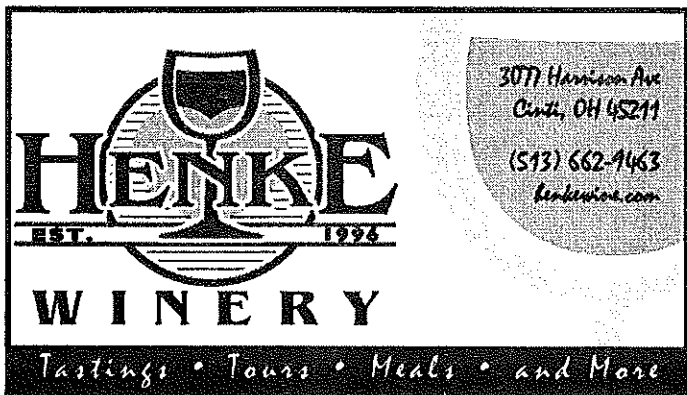
Drop off unused and/or expired prescription and over-the-counter medication. No questions asked.

Law Enforcement officers will collect then dispose of medications and containers in a safe environmentally-friendly manner, according to local EPA guidelines.

**MEDICATION
DISPOSAL
DAY
April 27, 2013**

When: Saturday April 27, 2013
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Disposal Site: 2310 Ferguson Rd.
(near the gas pumps)

Medications should be brought in their original container if at all possible. No liquids please!



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Equal Housing Opportunity

Newly Appointed WCA Board Members

At its March general meeting, elections supervisor Mary Jenkins announced that there are five qualified candidates for the five open slots on the Westwood Civic board. This is the time of year for board elections, but when there are five or fewer candidates, an election by ballot is not necessary. The board approved the five candidates. It also expresses gratitude for the many contributions of time and talent of John Sess, a long-time board member who decided not to run for re-election. Several of these newly appointed board members have served for years: Irene McNulty, Melva Gweyn, and Valerie Baumann. Two members, Tom Hodges and Leslie Rich, are new to the WCA board but not to civic life. We are glad to have them all as contributors. Let us introduce them to you:

Valerie Baumann

Originally from Green Township, I attended Oak Hills H.S., De-Pauw U., and U.C. I moved to Westwood June 1997, and learned of WCA thru Westwood Concern. I joined the board five years ago, and was informed they were in need of a treasurer, the position I now serve. I'm also a volunteer for the Westwood Home Tour(s), Westwood Citizens on Patrol (come join, it's fun), Westwood Town Hall garden volunteer, Westwood Community Garden member, District 3 "National Night Out" and various civic functions throughout the year. It is an honor to continue serving the WCA.

Melva Gweyn

Melva Gweyn, 38 year resident of Westwood, same husband, house, four children, two still live in Westwood and three grandchildren. Member of Westwood Civic for 12 years, member of Civic board for 11 years. Past president and vice president of Westwood Civic, co founder of Westwood Concern. Member of Westwood Cheviot Kiwanis. Her passion and love next to family is the welfare and improvement of Westwood. Her reward and inspiration are the many wonderful people she knows and meet who just happen to live in Westwood and on the Westside.

J. Thomas Hodges

Mr. Hodges is an attorney licensed in Ohio and Kentucky. His practice focuses on serving individuals on civil litigation and criminal defense matters. Mr. Hodges resides in Westwood. He holds a bachelors degree from Georgetown College, a masters of public administration from the University of Kentucky, and a law degree from the University of Cincinnati. In his free time, Mr. Hodges volunteers for numerous community and charitable initiatives. Mr. Hodges recently completed a term as Chairman of the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority and is currently serving as Board Chair for Community Shares of Greater Cincinnati.

Irene McNulty

Irene and her husband Jim have lived in Westwood since 1997. Irene has been involved with the Westwood Civic Association for about 15 years. Through her experiences with Citizens on Patrol, Westwood Historical Society, and Westwood Concern, there have been countless volunteer opportunities where she has seen positive change and made lasting friendships. Irene believes that Westwood is moving in the right direction, with WCA's strong focus on crime control and prevention, blight reduction, infrastructure improvements, and strategic planning. Irene looks forward to working on reviving our business districts and much more.

Leslie Rich

A resident of Westwood for nearly 30 years, Leslie Rich is a non-profit professional with seventeen years of experience. She has supported girls and adults in her work with Girl Scouts of Western Ohio for ten+ years. Leslie has started three non-profits: Ink-Tank, to excite kids about reading and writing; Projectmill, a successful artists collective; and Westwood Works, an asset-based community development group. She is on the board of TLC preschool and directs vacation bible school at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. Leslie, her husband and her two young sons love living near the Y, the library and Westwood Town Hall.

Westwood Home Tour

Sunday, April 28 - 1 until 6 pm.

Tour starts at Mother of Mercy High School

\$15 day of tour - \$10 advance tickets

Advance sale ticket vouchers available at

Henke Winery and US Bank Westwood-Cheviot office (3168 Harrison Ave).

The tour starts at Mother of Mercy High School

Featuring eight homes plus Westwood School and the Suburban Bell Building
(new Madeap Center).

For more information: 513-979-1927 or www.WestwoodHistorical.org

Volunteers needed! Help us spread the word! Contact 662-1156 or email info@westwoodhistorical.org



Westwood Historical Meetings

Liz Kissel

Wednesday, April 10, 7 pm

Westwood First Presbyterian Church

Period Gardening: Wes Duren from Marvin's Organic Gardens will discuss various period gardens such as Tudor and Victorian gardens and how some of those plants and characteristics can be incorporated into landscapes today. Wes has a degree in Landscape Horticulture from Ohio State University and also studied English gardening styles at Myercough College in Preston, England.

Wednesday, May 8, 7 pm

Westwood First Presbyterian Church

Antebellum Cincinnati: Dave Zelman will give us a look at some of the best remaining architectural buildings in Cincinnati from before the Civil War. Some will be familiar, others will be a bit off the beaten path, but all add to the incredible architectural legacy of our region. Dave is an architect with a certificate in historic preservation and a trustee of the Cincinnati Preservation Association.

Westwood Town Hall Clean Up

Melva Gweyn

To help make the April 28 Westwood Home Tour the great success it has been in the past, your help is needed. This event is one of few that presents Westwood in its most positive light. The Westwood Historical Society works very long and hard to make it a success as do the home owners who open their homes.

Starting Saturday April 6 we are having cleanups and spruce ups in various areas of Westwood from 10 AM to 12 PM. They will be every Saturday until the Home Tour. This includes litter pickup, raking in some areas, sweeping, and watering of plants. Areas of concentration will be determined as needed.

The big yearly Keep Cincinnati Beautiful Spring cleanup will be April 27 from 9 until 12. It will be based from Westwood Town Hall.



Becoming an Urban Archeologist Bruce McClung

As anyone who has seen "Mt. Rumpke" in Colerain Township knows, we humans produce large amounts of waste! The people who study this waste are known as urban archeologists. They often discover a rich record of the past and how people lived by excavating the thick stratum of waste from different eras. By isolating these various strata, urban archeologists can show how a particular site was used hundreds or even thousands of years ago.

With over 30,000 people living here in Westwood, the large concentration of waste on our streets is ripe for such inquiry. With a pick-up gripper from a local hardware store, a shopping bag, and pen and pad, you can begin to analyze the waste on your street. Here are some items you might encounter:

1. A disposable rubber glove and a Q-tip: these are the telltale signs for heroine use. The single rubber glove is employed as a tourniquet and the Q-tip is used to clean the skin. The *Cincinnati Enquirer* has recently run an excellent series of articles on the epidemic of heroine use in the tri-state.
2. A small plastic baggie with the corner ripped out: this is the packaging for crack cocaine. With heroine less expensive than crack cocaine, there are fewer of these baggies than just a few years ago.
3. Condoms: these are typically found where prostitutes are servicing their johns.
4. Liquor bottles: With state DWI laws, people who drink and drive typically try to get rid of bottles as soon as the beverage is consumed.

5. Syringes: Again, these probably suggest heroine use. These were rare a few a years ago but are becoming more prevalent on the streets of Cincinnati.

Once you locate one of these items on your street, the next step is to code where you found them by street address. By putting the items in your shopping bag you get them off your street. By regularly picking up litter on your street, you can begin to figure out patterns for where drug dealing may be happening or prostitutes are servicing their johns. With a location established, then you can begin to look for strange vehicles or people who don't live on your street. These might be the people leaving these materials

Urban archeology can thus help you build a case for what is happening on your street and where such activity is occurring. Once you gather descriptions of strange vehicles (make, model, color license plate numbers) or unknown persons (height, weight, shoes, clothing, hair color), you can pass this information on to the Cincinnati Police Department's Street Corner Unit at 352-3175 or Vice Unit at 352-2555. Uniformed police are usually not as effective as undercover officers at making arrests for drugs and prostitution because it is more difficult for them to obtain the specific evidence needed for prosecution.

Interested in honing your urban archeology skills with Westwood Citizens on Patrol? Email our unit and leave your name and address, and we'll mail you a brochure or application: Westwood-COP@aol.com; or call Cincinnati Police Officer Princess Davis at (513) 352-3533.

Westwood Town Hall Recreation Center
Dina Hanks

Summer Day Camp Registration has begun! Looking for something for that school age child, ages 6-12yrs old to do this summer? Join us for Camp CRC at Westwood Town Hall June 10-Aug 16th. Camp runs 7am - 6pm Monday through Friday (except July 4th). Our camp offers games, trips, arts and crafts, swimming, nature, so much more! The cost for this year's program is \$1050 per child and we offer 10% off on each additional child. Stop by to pick up a registration packet at the center or check us out on the web at www.cincyrec.org.

We have some great classes going on this spring for all ages.

Duct Tape Workshop - This 2 day workshop lets you explore what you can do with Duct Tape! Wednesday, April 3rd and 4th, 6:30-8:30pm Cost \$20 plus supplies. Or join the Ongoing Duct Tape Classes on Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm, 6 classes for \$40. All of the Duct Tape Classes are open to youth ages 9 to Adults and Seniors.

Zumba is moving and grooving on Thursday Nights. Summer-time is almost here so get that body moving to some great music beats and have a bit of fun in your workout. Classes are on Thursdays from 6:30pm-7:30pm. The fee is \$6.00 per class.

The annual Preschool Princess for a Day and Friday Knights programs are filling up fast. This annual tradition for the boys and girls, ages 3-5yrs is sure to delight your little one. Friday Knights is Friday, May 17th and Princess for a Day is Friday, May 24. Both programs are 10am - Noon and the fee is \$15 per child. Space is limited so registration is a must.

Mark those calendars for the ANNUAL Westwood Yard Sale. The date is set for July 21, 2013 from 9am - 2pm. More info to come and registration begins on April 29th. Please call 513-662-9109 if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

For all of our Spring Program Information check out our website at www.cincyrec.org or stop by and pick up a Spring Program Guide.

April 2013

Westwood Branch Public Library

3345 Epworth Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45211 - (513) 369-4474

Sunday Closed	Monday Noon - 8 p.m.	Tuesday Noon - 8 p.m.	Wednesday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Thursday Noon - 8 p.m.	Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
	1 "Pick-A-Princess" Family Movie Children 2:00p.m.	2 	3 Movers & Shakers Ages 1 - 4 10:30 a.m. Yu-Gi-Oh! Teens 3:00 p.m.	4 	5	6 Game On! Teens 2:00 p.m. 
7	8 After-school Awesome! Ages 8-14 3:00 pm 	9 	10 Movers & Shakers Ages 1 - 4 10:30 a.m. Read to Reel Movie Children 3:00 p.m.	11 Anime Club Teens 4:00 p.m. Registration Required	12 	13
14	15 	16 National Librarian Day 	17 Movers & Shakers Ages 1 - 4 10:30 a.m. 	18 	19	20 Earth Day Bookmarks Teens 3:00 p.m.
21 	22 After-school Awesome! Ages 8-14 3:00 pm 	23 National Volunteer Week 	24 Movers & Shakers Ages 1 - 4 10:30 a.m. 	25 Westwood Book Club Adults 7:00 p.m. 	26 Celebrate Arbor Day Plant A Tree 	27
28	29 	30				

Interpreter for the hearing impaired available upon request. Please call ADA Coordinator at 369-4406 (TDD 369-4409) at least one week before program

**Westwood Civic Association Monthly
Statement March, 2013**

Revenue	
Miscellaneous	.93
Total Revenue	.93
Expenses	
Newsletter	\$404.21
Miscellaneous	73.43
WCA Election	72.97
Total Expenses	\$550.61
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$10,660.78
SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$8,944.32

Submitted by Valerie Baumann, Treasurer

**We're Growing at the Westwood Community
Gardens**

Mary Jenkins

Many of our members have seen the Westwood Community Gardens (WCG) at 2163 Harrison Avenue, at the intersection with Talbott. If you haven't, do take a look. You're welcome to stop by and take a walk around. Gardeners will be happy to answer questions about their experience. Friend us on Facebook to follow our news or ask me to add you to my mailing list (jenkinswestwood@gmail.com). The last section of fence, between WCG and the Harrison Pavilion, should be installed this month. Our next big project is erecting the tool shed.



Whether you're gardening with us or in your own backyard, here's a reminder about what gets planted in April. If you started chard, onions, cauliflower, or broccoli inside, it's time to plant them outside now. It's also fine to sow these seeds directly outside in early to mid-April: carrots, Swiss chard, collards, kale, mustard, parsnips, peas, spinach, and early potatoes. Strawberries should be planted now, too. And, believe it or not, you can look forward to hot summer days by starting your peppers, tomatoes, and eggplants from seed inside now. Check your seed packs or our website or the Civic Garden Center of Greater Cincinnati's for more information.

We have a few more plots available for 2013 rental. For more information about the WCG, find us on Facebook or visit our website at <http://westwoodcommunitygardens.wikispaces.com>.

**Upcoming
Westwood Civic Association
Meetings & Events**

4/9/2013 Steering Meeting	4/16/2013 General Meeting
5/8/2013 Steering Meeting	5/15/2013 General 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.

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

Monthly Ad Rates

\$100.00.....	Full Page
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\$25.00.....	Quarter Page
\$10.00.....	Business Card
\$50.00.....	Insert

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

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Term: April 2012 - April 2013

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*Mary Kuhl..... 678-5119
- VICE PRESIDENT-**
*Mary Jenkins.....746-5385
- RECORDING SECRETARY-**
*Karen Strasser.....604-1167
- TREASURER-**
- *Valerie Baumann.....
- MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY-**
*Jill Minor.....

***WCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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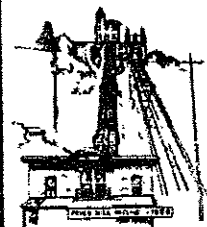
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**WESTWOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION
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NAME(S): _____

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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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Saturday, April 27
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Westwood Town Hall
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