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Westwood Civic Association

WESTWORDS

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October, 2013

w.www.westwoodcivic.org

Volume 43, Issue 10

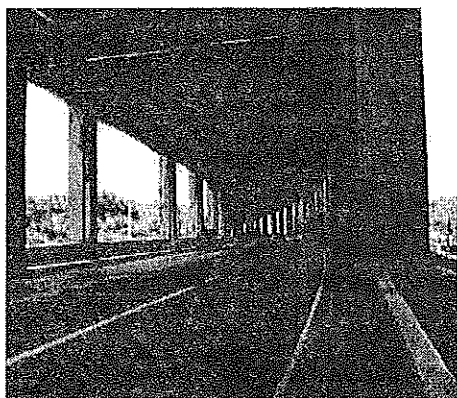
Proposed Upgrade to Western Hills Viaduct: Public Input Sought at Westwood Meeting

Mary Jenkins

The City of Cincinnati's Department of Transportation & Engineering (DOTE) seeks feedback on the proposed upgrade of the Western Hills Viaduct, the important east-west corridor across the Mill Creek and railroad yard which many of us travel every day. A representative of DOTE will make a brief presentation at the WCA meeting on **Tuesday, October 15, 2013 at 7:00 pm at Westwood Town Hall**. The presentation will focus on deteriorating conditions and options available for the viaduct's reconstruction or replacement. There will be time for Q&A and public input.

You might also be interested in reading more about the West-

ern Hills Viaduct at <http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/dote/dote-projects/western-hills-viaduct/>. An earlier presentation is posted there, along with information about the viaduct's history and the evidence that it is reaching the end of its design life.



Art Show Great Success!! Jessica Thayer

The 5th Annual Westwood Art Show on September 14th was a great success and I would like to thank everyone that came to the show: patrons, artists and volunteers! With over 1200 in attendance, there was a lot of positive energy and numerous complements on the variety of talented artists, music, crafts and the food. Thank you Westwood Civic Association, Westwood Works, Westwood Historical Society, Madcap, all our high school volunteers and the Girl Scouts of Western Ohio. Thank you also to the Westwood Art Show committee members, Westwood Town Hall staff, Brazee Street Studios, Broadhope Art Collective, our food vendors, and of course all of the very talented artists! The Westwood Art Show is not only a great showcase of the talent in our community, but of the community itself. Everyone gave their best and it showed!



WHO HAS THE BEST DECORATED YARD FOR THE HOLIDAYS!!!

This is the second year the Westwood Civic Association (WCA) encourages residents and businesses to decorate their properties for the holidays. Each week, from Sunday, November 24 through Saturday, December 28, 10 of the best decorated will be designated with WCA Yard-of-the-Week signs posted on those properties nominated and chosen.



We encourage residents to nominate who they feel have the best decorated property. Nominations can be made by emailing bmimmy@aol.com. Nominations must be properties within the boundaries of Westwood.


Preserving Westwood History One Memory at a Time

Liz Kissel

Recorded information about local history is often piecemeal and focuses on major events. Unfortunately, personal perceptions of those events, along with details of ordinary life and gradual changes in the landscape are seldom preserved. Diaries and oral histories are ways to capture these valuable pieces of history before they are lost forever.

Jim Bodle, PhD, Professor of Psychology at the College of Mount Saint Joseph and Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, will discuss an oral history project he is working on to capture memories of the Westwood community at the next Westwood Historical Society meeting. He will talk about the oral history process and the lessons he has learned along the way as he shares some of the stories he gathered during interviews with several Westwood residents. The meeting takes place Wednesday, October 9, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the Westwood First Presbyterian Church (3011 Harrison Avenue). All who are interested are welcome to attend.

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

Westwood Coalition's Revitalization Recommendations

Mary Jenkins

The Westwood Coalition of business owners, community organizations, and residents, to which Westwood Civic Association has representation, released a report and recommendations in late September. The coalition posted the report on its website at <http://revitalizewestwood.com/2013/09/24/report-and-recommendations/>. The report summarizes the several community meetings held in summer 2013 and shares community input into the planning process regarding the potential for revitalization of the business district along Harrison Avenue from Kling Avenue to the Cheviot line. The coalition makes several recommendations for its continued work, summarized here and limited to the historic business district:

1. Apply the form-based code to the historic business district and the surrounding quarter mile walk shed;
 - a. Continue the work of the coalition with the city's planning department to refine the application of the code, sharing progress with the community;
2. With the community, the coalition should develop more specific proposals for the revitalization of the business district;
3. Lead a community dialogue focused on economic factors and retail development.

Please read the report for the context of and input from the community meetings. The coalition's members invite community response to its report and recommendations through comments on its website, emails to revitalizewestwood@gmail.com, and conversations.



Learn Before you Burn



These cool autumn nights seem like the perfect time for a bonfire. Before you burn, learn the regulations of open burning. Where you live may determine whether you can burn.

Open burning pollutes the air we breathe. Even small campfires emit harmful pollutants. These pollutants can lead to breathing difficulties and increased asthma attacks. Individuals with allergies are particularly sensitive when leaves and plants are burned releasing millions of spores. In addition, open burning can damage buildings by corroding metal siding and damaging paint on buildings.

For these reasons, there are some regulations as to what is legal open burning.

Legal:

- Personal campfires and portable fire pits are acceptable if wood stacks are no larger than three feet wide by two feet high.
- Always use clean, seasoned firewood.
- Ceremonial fires if no larger than five feet by five feet and burning for no more than three hours.
- Cooking for human consumption.

Illegal:

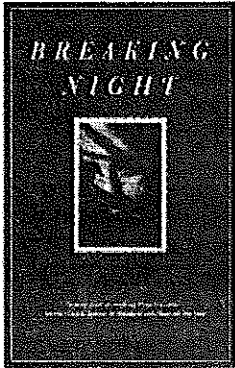
- Garbage
- Materials containing rubber, grease or asphalt
- Tires, cars and auto parts
- Plastic and plastic coated wire
- Dead animals
- Within the boundaries of a village or city, it is illegal to burn for land-clearing waste and residential waste.

To learn more about what open burning is acceptable in your area or to report a suspected open burning incident, please visit www.SouthwestOhioAir.org/open-burning or call 513-946-7777.

Westwood Library will be a polling location on Election Day.

Adult Book Club – Thursday, October 24 at 7:00 pm

This month's selection is Breaking Night: My Journey from Homeless to Harvard by Liz Murray



Liz Murray was born to loving but drug-addicted parents in the Bronx. In school she was taunted for her dirty clothing and lice-infested hair, eventually skipping so many classes that she was put into a girls' home. At age fifteen, Liz found herself on the streets when her family finally unraveled. She learned to scrape by, foraging for food and riding subways all night to have a warm place to sleep.

When Liz's mother died of AIDS, she decided to take control of her own destiny and go back to high school, often completing her assignments in the hallways and subway stations where she slept. Liz squeezed four years of high school into two, while homeless; won a New York Times scholarship; and made it into the Ivy League. Breaking Night is an unforgettable and beautifully written story of one young woman's indomitable spirit to survive and prevail, against all odds.

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.

Technology Appointments— Interested in one-on-one computer training? Schedule a convenient appointment with us to learn basic computer skills and help with downloading library materials.

Game On!—Saturday, October 5 at 2:00 p.m.--Teens
Play games with friends at the library! Sponsored by Kersten Fund.

Afterschool Awesome—Wednesday, October 9 and 23 at 3:30 p.m.—Ages 8-14. Westwood Library is partnering up with Heartprints to build, inspire, empower, and engage tweens; ages 8-14. Explore a world of learning fun!

Anime Club – Thursday, October 10 at 4:00 p.m. – Teens
Registration Required. Come watch Anime with fellow otaku, draw and have some fun!

We're Game—Monday, October 14 at 2:30 p.m.
Tweens! You're invited to join your friends for video and board games! Ages 8-12

Read to Reel Movie—Wednesday, October 16 at 3:00 p.m.—All Ages. Enjoy our feature presentation: Hotel Transylvania (PG)

Bingo for Kids—Thursday, October 17 at 3:00 p.m.—Children. Join your friends afterschool and play for fabulous prizes!

Feel the Energy with National Chemistry Week!—
Monday, October 21 at 3:00 p.m.—Children
Can you feel the energy? Come join us to celebrate National Chemistry Week at the Library. The Cincinnati Section of the American Chemical Society encourages stu-

dents to explore chemistry and energy with a focus on sustainable resources.

Self-Defense—Saturday, October 26 at 2:00 p.m.—Adults, Teens. Join us with Master Thomas Velkoff, a fourth degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do and third degree Black Belt in Hapkido. He will demonstrate some self-defense moves as well as teach us about defending ourselves!

LEGO Time—Monday, October 28 at 3:00 p.m. Join your friends each month and build your own LEGO creations!
Ages 6-12

Halloween Fun for Kids—Wednesday, October 30 at 3:00 p.m.— Celebrate the day before Halloween with a make-and-take craft! Ages 5-10

BeTWEEN the Pages – Every Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. – Ages 8-16. Looking for something to do? Want to hear some good stories? Join us for the weekly tween and teen story hour and get caught up in a good book!

Movers & Shakers – Every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. – Ages 1-4. You and your child shake it together for music, movement, and fun.

Programs made possible by 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 **Hours of Operation:**
3345 Epworth Avenue Mon./Tues./Thurs.: 12-8
513-369-4474 Wed./ Fri./Sat. 10-6
www.cincinnati.library.org

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


Revenue	
Westwood Art Show	\$1,567.00
Westwood Community Gardens	750.00
Membership	20.00
Miscellaneous	.55
Total Revenue	\$2,337.55

Expenses	
Westwood Art Show	\$1,408.19
Westwood Gateways	500.00
Newsletter	406.60
Westwood Coalition	87.22
Postage	46.00
Miscellaneous	8.00
Total Expenses	\$2456.01

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE \$12,269.05

SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE \$8,944.74

Submitted by Valerie Baumann, Treasurer



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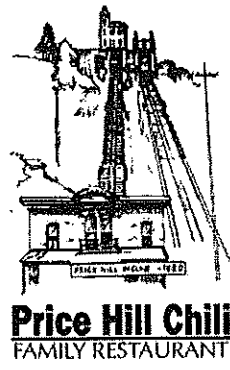
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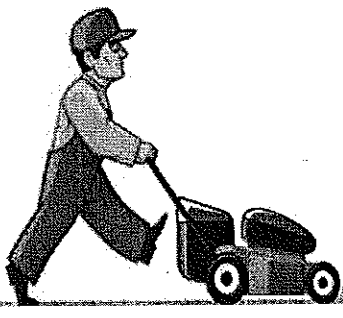


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From The President's Desk

Greetings Westwood Residents! Happy October and Happy Fall from the Westwood Civic Association.

As you plan your October and November events and calendars, please reserve a spot to attend a Westwood Civic Association Meeting! Our meetings are informative, educational, and you can find out what is happening around the neighborhood, as well as updates to upcoming events.

Next Meetings: Our next Meetings are October 15th (General Meeting), November 5th (Steering Meeting), and November 12th (General Meeting). All the Meetings start at 7:00 PM, and wrap up close to 9:00 PM. Please come and join us! We always meet at the Westwood Town Hall, 3017 Harrison Avenue, in the first floor conference room. We need your help, support, and you may decide to volunteer and help us out in an upcoming event, activity or meeting.

Westwood Demolitions: Currently, we have 14 blighted multi-family buildings on the approved City Demolition List, awaiting to be demolished. Your WCA Buildings and Properties Committee is working diligently to get the approved Contractors over to their sites, to start these demolitions. For some reason, we are stalled on demolitions. The City has too few Contractors scheduled to do too many demolitions, and we are now seeing the backup occurring. Hopefully, by the November Newsletter, I will be able to give you all some good news, that several of these bad buildings have been demolished.

Westwood Art Show Recap: On September 14th, our 5th Annual Westwood Art Show was a huge success! Many Thanks to our Coordinators, Ms. Jessica Thayer and Ms. Leslie Rich for organizing a wonderful event. Thanks to all the Westwood Residents who stopped by the Westwood Civic Association booth to volunteer to help, to talk, or just to say "Hi". It was great to see everyone having such a great time at the Art Show. The day had perfect weather, perfect company, and great Arts & Crafts displays and booths. The music was also superb! Overall, a great, awesome and perfect day! We hope all of you will mark your calendars for September 2014..... The 6th Annual Art Show will be even better!

Westwood Community Gardens Update: On September 28th, we had the 2nd Annual "Harvest Moon" party at the Westwood Community Gardens. Thanks to all the Gardens supporters and gardeners who came out and celebrated with us! We had food, drinks, a campfire and guitar music! A wonderful time was had by all the attendees. We even had some tours of the Gardens as well. Overall, another great event, that looks like it will continue year after year. Thanks to all the volunteers who brought food, tables, chairs, music, and those who helped set everything up at the site. Thanks so much!

Have a great Month of October! More to come in November!

Sincerely,
Joel J. Kimmet, President
Westwood Civic Association

WCA OFFICERS

Term: April 2012 - April 2013

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*Mary Kuhl..... 678-5119

VICE PRESIDENT-

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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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**Upcoming
Westwood Civic Association
Meetings & Events**

10/8/2013 Steering Meeting 10/15/2013 General Meeting
11/12/2013 Steering Meeting 11/19/2013 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.



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2013
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