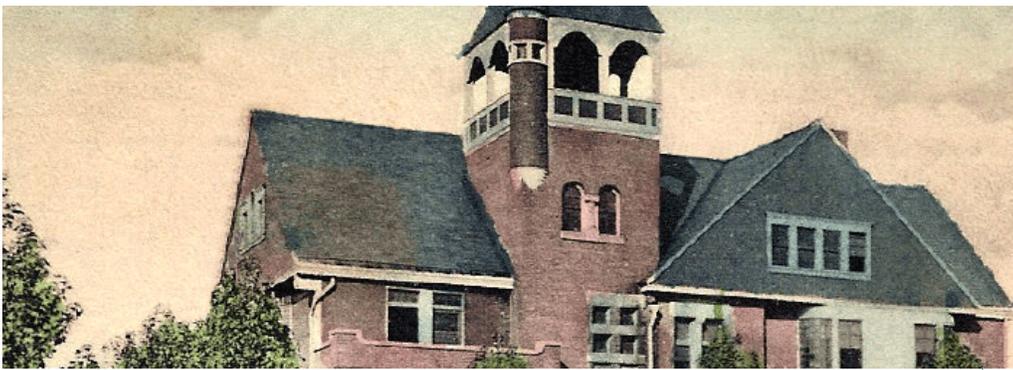




WESTWOOD CIVIC
ASSOCIATION
Serving Westwood since 1911



WESTWORDS



DEAR NEIGHBORS,

How a neighborhood looks says a lot about its quality of life, public safety, and its sense of community. Westwood boasts many beautiful tree-lined streets, active and lovely public spaces, and no end to the candidates for WCA's Yard of the Month honors. We have many business owners who show pride in their storefronts and property owners who go the extra mile to pick up litter and keep yards tidy. Westwoodians adopted all the flower pots along Harrison Avenue, bringing more people into beautification efforts. A Cadette Girl Scout troop is collaborating with other volunteers to keep Town Hall grounds looking gorgeous. Our June Clean Up Blitz is now the model for Cincinnati neighborhoods, according to Public Services director Gerald Checco, and it will lead to another one in advance of the Westwood Art Show (September 12) when Westwood will welcome thousands of shoppers to our community. We'll also show off Westwood's available housing stock that day with *At Home in Westwood*. How our community looks shows how we live. It's one demonstration of our values.

All of this effort to keep Westwood safe and clean is terrific, but we need to do much more as a community to address blight and neglect. WCA's infrastructure and beautification committee needs your help. Here are six ways you could make a difference. Contact us for more information.

1. Commit to picking up litter regularly with your family, neighbors, or an organization.
2. Join our clean up blitzes and private lot abatement efforts or lead a small scale blitz.
3. Report litter, graffiti, and tall grass to 591-6000 or 5916000.com
4. Compliment the people who make a positive difference in Westwood's appearance.
5. Send us nominations for our Worst of the Worst blight abatement list.
6. Come up with a beautification idea and run with it!

Mary Jenkins



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WESTWOOD CIVIC MEETINGS

- *Steering Committee Meetings* are held at Westwood Town Hall, **7:00pm**, on the **second Tuesday of each month**.
- *General Membership Meetings* are held at Westwood Town Hall, **7:00pm**, on the **third Tuesday of each month**.
- ALL meetings are open to the public. **EVERYONE** is welcome!

Sometimes you cross paths with angels in your own neighborhood. Westwood Community Gardens has been very fortunate to have the helping hands of Westwood residents Gayle and Mike Rece who have given many hours of time and talent to our community gardens. Most recently, Gayle, who is a master composter, has moved and sorted heaps of compost from our old wire bins to the sturdy new compost bins built for us by the Civic Garden Center's Green Team interns. With this fresh start, we will be making more compost to enrich our soil. Mike helped to move the compost and filled several of our new raised beds with soil. All of our gardeners are required to contribute twelve service hours per year so we do have lots of support but one real test of the impact of an organization is how many people volunteer out of interest and admiration, too, not because of an obligation. We are glad to call Gayle and Mike friends of the Westwood Community Gardens. We are welcoming plot applications now for the remainder of 2015 and for 2016.



Westwood, you're invited to join the rest of our neighbors in Cincinnati Police

District 3 and over 37.8 million neighbors across 16,124 communities in celebration of National Night Out, America's Night Out Against Crime on Tuesday, August 4th, 2015 from 5:30 -8:00 pm at our own Oskamp Park in Westwood. National Night Out is a cohesive effort to promote involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships, neighborhood camaraderie and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

There will be food, fun, information, and more as police and public safety and neighborhood organizations seek to promote involvement in crime reduction and make our neighborhood a cleaner, safer, better place to live. Westwood Civic will be represented. If you can help by volunteering that evening, say the word.

June/July 2015 Treasurer's Report

Checking			
June Opening Balance			\$5,926.50
	Deposit	Payment	
Student of the Year		\$192.50	
June Newsletter		\$687.00	
Westwood Community Gardens	\$75.00	\$509.88	
NSP Reimbursement	\$4,800.00		
Sale of Westwood Banners	\$175.00		
Membership	\$40.00		
Misc.		\$113.77	
Harrison Ave. Flower Pots		\$500.00	
Insurance for Art Show		\$400.00	
Total	\$5,090.00	\$2,403.15	
July 26, 2015 Ending Balance			\$8,613.35
Savings Balance			\$8,946.19

NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPORT PROGRAM (NSP) VOTE NOTICE

The Westwood Civic Association will be deciding on our 2015-16 Neighborhood Support Program (NSP) spending categories during the regular August 18, 2015 General Meeting. The NSP funding is \$ 6,800 per neighborhood this fiscal year. A discussion and a vote will be taken at this meeting concerning the Westwood NSP funding and the categories to be selected. All Westwood residents are eligible to vote on the way this funding is used, and the projects that are selected, within program guidelines, of course. Prior Westwood approved projects have included the printing of this newsletter, the wooden "Welcome To Westwood" signs at our boundaries, American flags along Harrison Avenue, landscaping projects at Westwood Town Hall, projects at the Westwood Community Gardens, Westwood T-shirts, green Westwood porch banners, and the Harrison Avenue flower pots. Suggested 2015-16 projects include the printing of this newsletter, projects at Westwood Community Gardens, Westwood signage, flower pots beautification, Town Hall landscaping, and other beautification projects. Come and join us on August 18th for this important discussion and vote!

"The best way to pursue happiness is to help other people. Nothing else will make you happier"

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BUILDING BETTER NEIGHBORHOODS

Neighborhoods have existed since people began living communally. For thousands of years, our ancestors lived in barrios, hamlets, neighborhoods, and villages. It has only been in the last few generations that suburbia took hold and people moved away from denser, urban settings. That is changing. People are moving back to urban settings in record numbers. Here in Ohio, Cincinnati leads in job growth, bringing with it a fast-growing urban population and changing demographics. As this growth continues, many new neighbors will be living among us.

We all want better neighborhoods, even better neighbors, but how do we undertake such a daunting task?

- ◆ Welcome new neighbors to your block with a fruit basket or fresh baked cookies. When people feel welcome to a neighborhood, they want to participate and take care of that neighborhood. These folks make good neighbors.
- ◆ Have a pot luck dinner. Ask each house to make a dish. Invite each house to host a different month. Food always brings people together.
- ◆ Host movie nights, using a garage door as the movie screen. Alternate which home gets to pick the rental, and don't forget the popcorn
- ◆ Sit outside in your yard or front porch. The best way to get to know your neighbors is to actually see them. Many times, your neighbors will stop by to visit if they see you outside. Make a night of it, take out a bottle of wine. Impromptu neighborhood parties can strengthen neighborly ties.
- ◆ Use social media. Create a private Facebook page or a NextDoor group to connect all the homes on your street. Using social media is a quick way of letting neighbors know what is going on in the neighborhood, plan neighborhood get togethers, and build relationships among neighbors.
- ◆ Address neighborhood problems early before they fester. Approach a problem situation by asking to understand and solve a problem together.

Better neighbors equal better neighborhoods equal safer neighborhoods!



“A good neighbor increases your property value” - Czech proverb

Report Tall Grass: 513-591-6000 or 591-6000.com



YARD OF THE MONTH

Westwood residents are noticeable experts in gardening. To highlight & reward those endeavors, WCA crowns monthly “Yards of the Month.”

July 2015 Winners

- 3477 McFarland
- 3314 McHenry
- 3441 Stathem
- 2905 Montana
- 2914 La Feuille
- 2900 La Feuille
- 2823 Harrison
- 2187 Harrison
- 3082 Glenmore
- 2802 Westbrook

We're looking for leadership for Yard of the Month.

The Yard of the Month initiative is a neighborhood wide plan to award yards that are creatively landscaped, decorated, or simply well taken care of. Westwood Civic provides yard signs for individuals as recognition for their hard work. By participating in yard of the month, you'll be giving back to the community, while making someone very happy!

If you're interested in doing some volunteering , please contact info@westwoodcivic.org .

WCA ADOPT-A-POT

Congratulations to our June Pot of the Month Winners!

Mary Jenkins



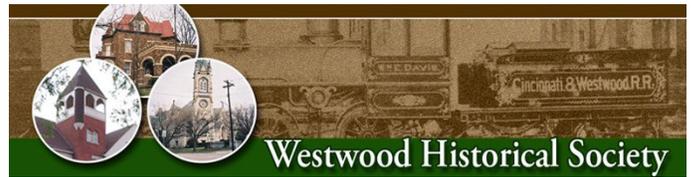
Karen Strasser



Henke Winery



Pot Adopters: Don't forget to keep your plants watered and tended (the Salvia needs dead-heading, remove litter, and replace plants as needed). Even when it has been raining, your pots still need to be visited.



Westwood History Lab

Wednesday, August 15

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Westwood Branch Public Library

3345 Epworth Avenue

Interested in researching the history of your house?
Your street? Someone in Westwood's past?

Do you have Westwood history stories to tell? Do
you have old photographs taken in Westwood?

Stop by the library community room. See some of the
resources available including books, maps and
online resources to help find history answers. We
hope to have some extra computers available to use
for research.

follow us on
twitter



@WestwoodCiv

Westword's Monthly Ad Rates

Published ~12 times a year by WCA with funds supplied by the Neighborhood Support Program, local advertisers & membership dues. WCA has 322 active memberships. For information about placing an ad: info@westwoodcivic.org

\$100—Full Page; \$50—Half Page; \$50—Insert; \$25—Quarter Page; \$10—Business Card

Officers

President	Mary Jenkins	(513) 746-5385
Vice President	Shawnteé Stallworth Schramm	(513) 364-9025
Vice President	Joel Kimmet	(513) 200-4235
Treasurer	Steve Beckman	(513) 481-0840
Recording Secretary	Karen Strasser	(513) 604-1167
Membership Secretary	Stephen Schramm	(513) 346-9944

Board of Directors

Joe Corso	Irene McNulty
Emily Reynolds	Valerie Baumann
Trinette Zawadzki	Melva Gweyn
Larry Eiser	Sara Overstake

Blight Abatement

WCA is looking for the worst of the worst properties.



If you see a seriously blighted property in Westwood, report it to 591-6000 or 5916000.com. Let us know at info@westwoodcivic.org. We maintain a list and submit it to the City.

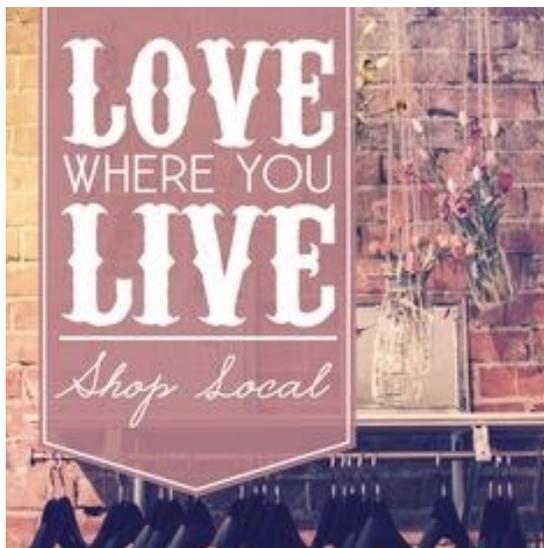
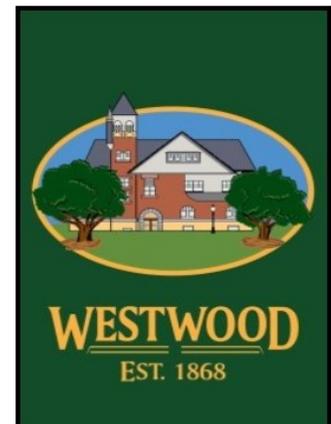
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WESTWOODCIVIC.ORG

- The Constitution
- Strategic plan
- Newsletter Archives
- Meeting information
- Meeting Minutes
- Local/government links
- Membership forms
- Email sign up
- And much, much more....



WESTWOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION 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** _____

NEWSLETTER: _____ **ELECTRONIC** _____ **US POST**

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!

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



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