



WESTWOOD CIVIC
ASSOCIATION
Serving Westwood since 1911



WESTWORDS



DEAR NEIGHBORS,

As we reported by email to our members recently, Cincinnati Police Department District 3 Captain Aaron Jones told the Westwood Uniting to Stop the Violence team in late April that shootings were down in Westwood and East Westwood in the first quarter of 2016 as compared to the same period in 2015 – a 50% reduction. See page 2 for the details of this decrease.

I appreciate the work of several dozen committed Westwood residents who have scanned the environment and analyzed data, distributed surveys, interviewed residents and business owners, and more to move on to recommended problem-solving responses. The three location-focused groups will present recommendations ranging from citizen-led short-term and ongoing initiatives to actions for the community council to a call to action for city departments from code enforcement to law to public services to police. It is a strategic and impressive approach. We plan to hold a community forum in Westwood this summer to announce the recommendations to our neighbors, City Council and city departments, area organizations, and the press. In the meantime, we are holding litter clean ups and Good Guy Loitering sessions and taking other immediate steps that do not require significant resources. Watch for more news next month about the Westwood Uniting to Stop the Violence initiative.

I hope to see you at our always-special May general membership meeting as we recognize Students of the Year from all the Westwood schools. Councilmember Yvette Simpson will announce the awards. We will also have a presentation from the Department of Transportation and Engineering on the impact of the street rehabilitation on Montana Avenue and the 2016 plans for Boudinot Ave work.

Thank you for joining Westwood Civic Association as we take important steps to keep Westwood beautiful and improve the quality of life in our neighborhood.

Mary Jenkins

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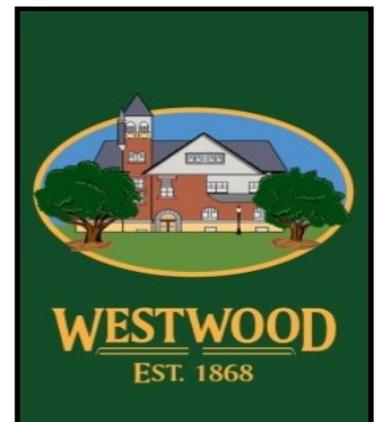
WESTWOOD CIVIC MEETINGS

- *Steering Committee Meetings* are held at Westwood Town Hall, **7:00pm**, of Jan, April, July, & October
- *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!

Westwood Flags are Back!

\$30 Order yours today! www.westwoodcivic.org

info@westwoodcivic.org





The Westwood Coalition is pleased to announce a community meeting on Monday, May 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor of Westwood Town Hall so we can learn more from Cincinnati Parks about initial design ideas for the park grounds at Westwood Town Hall. We will also briefly address plans for the intersection of Harrison, Epworth, and Urwiler, infrastructure, generally, and the evolving work of branding and positioning the historic neighborhood business district.

Thanks to Urban Agriculture funding from the Civic Garden Center and earth-moving help from Westwood resident Mike Rece, the Westwood Community Gardens has created 35-foot long farm rows as an extension of the growing space in the garden. These rows, as well as 4'x8' raised beds, are available for rental. See <http://westwoodcivic.org/initiatives/westwood-community-gardens/> for the rules and application form. 4'x8' plots rent for \$25 for the calendar year. A 16-1/2' section of farm row rents for \$25 this year. These options offer space for both compact and sprawling produce. We're continuing our tradition of Plant a Row for the Hungry, donating excess produce and dedicating a plot to My Neighbors Place. For more information, contact WCG coordinator Mary Jenkins at 513.746.5385 or via info@westwoodcivic.org.



“Never look down on someone, unless you are helping them up”

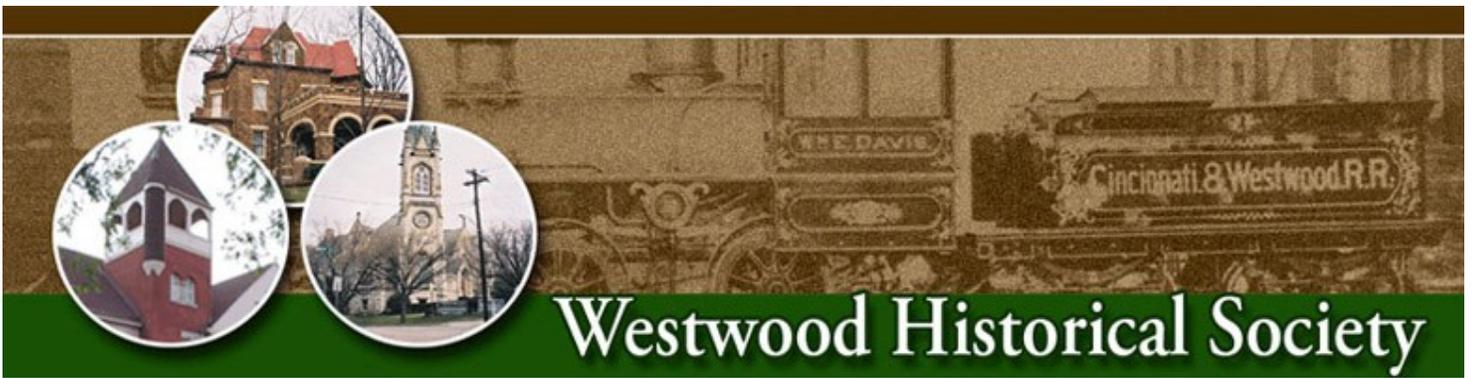
REDUCTIONS IN SHOOTINGS IN WESTWOOD

Westwood Civic Association and its Westwood Uniting to Stop the Violence problem-solving teams are currently working to finalize their recommendations on strategies to reduce crime and improve safety and quality of life in Westwood. These soon-to-be finalized recommendations follow a thorough review of crime data, information from surveys, and community input by each team around three identified locations. We expect to see a reduction in violent crime and associated challenges as our recommended actions are put into place by residents, businesses, Cincinnati Police Department, other city departments, civic and faith organizations, and other partners. Expect announcements of our Westwood Uniting to Stop the Violence recommendations in June.

In the meantime, we have some very positive news from the Cincinnati Police Department, reported on April 26 by District 3 Captain Aaron Jones. As we've previously noted, the CPD Gang Enforcement Squad has concentrated its work in Westwood and East Westwood over the past few months, focusing on McHenry Avenue from Harrison Avenue to Baltimore Avenue and surrounding areas in an offender-and location-focused approach. This concentrated law enforcement strategy is having a significant impact, along with citizen cooperation and input. Here is the good news for our neighborhood:

In Westwood and East Westwood in 2015, there were 47 shooting incidents, averaging a shooting every 7.6 days. The most recent shooting in these neighborhoods occurred 30+ days ago. Drilling down to the McHenry Avenue corridor, specifically, we see that in 2015, a shooting occurred once every 11.25 days. So far in 2016, we are averaging a shooting every 22 days; a 50% reduction in shootings thus far in 2016. The data available thus far suggests that 2016 is different from and a significant improvement over 2015.

Westwood Civic Association and the Westwood Uniting to Stop the Violence organizing team anticipate an even greater reduction in crime as its short- and long-term recommendations are made and implemented this year. We're grateful to the Cincinnati Police Department for its partnership with the Westwood Uniting effort and its concentrated focus on Westwood.



Westwood Historical Society

Stories in the Grove

Phil Nuxhall

Wednesday, May 11, 7:00 pm

Westwood First Presbyterian Church

(3011 Harrison Avenue, entrance and parking off of Koenig Avenue)

Phil Nuxhall, historian for Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum, will speak and do a book signing. His focus will be on the content from his second book, *Stories in the Grove*, about people who are buried at Spring Grove. While he will talk about just some of the 115 people he writes about in his book (out of 220,000+ buried there), you will come away knowing that it is not just the rich and famous who have a story to tell. Those who heard his past presentation about his first book, *Beauty in the Grove*, know that he is an entertaining speaker. All are welcome to attend.

7th Westwood Home Tour

WHAT A SUCCESS!!!!

Thanks to everyone who helped, including:

Seven very gracious homeowners

Mother of Mercy High School

St. Catharine of Siena Church, and The Bass Cellar Shop,

Kretschmar Deli along with our other sponsors

Over 100 volunteers

The home tour committee

Westwood COPPs for their traditional clean up

And everyone who came to the tour

or took the extra time to spruce up their yards and the neighborhood.

About 675 people from at least 47 zip codes took to the streets of Westwood on a beautiful spring day as we showcased some of the wonderful homes we have in our neighborhood. Based on 365 surveys returned, people loved the homes and the friendly people.

Clearly Westwood is the Bestwood!



TOWN HALL GARDEN CLUB

The Beautification committee has been hard at work on the newly formed Town Hall Garden Club. If you enjoy gardening and/or looking at the pristine grounds of Town Hall, get involved in our Adopt a Garden program. Flowers, mulch, tools and water will be provided. Little gardens and big gardens are still available. Additionally, if you would like to just volunteer occasionally on the grounds to pick up litter, dead head flowers and grab weeds, let us know so we can include you as part of the team. To get involved email Karen Strasser at strasser@fuse.net or call 513.604.1167.



Please nominate properties for Yard of the Month. Send nominated addresses to info@westwoodcivic.org



CINCINNATI NEIGHBORHOOD GAMES –

QUALIFY AND GO TO THE FINALS REPRESENTING WESTWOOD AND WIN AS ONE.

The Cincinnati Neighborhood Games are here. Qualifiers are happening in May. Go to www.cincygames.com to get the scoop.

“There is a reason some people think they can do anything, they listened to their mothers”

The Westwood Civic Association will present the Wayne Brinkman Student of the Year Civic Leadership Awards to nine distinguished students at the Westwood Civic Association general meeting on Tuesday, May 17th, at Westwood Town Hall. Recipients from Westwood schools and schools bordering Westwood, are those students who have exhibited exemplary civic spirit and leadership, through community involvement and/or volunteerism in civic minded endeavors.

Nominations were open to all first through twelfth grade students attending a Westwood school and were submitted by teachers, counselors, principals and community members.

The awards will be presented by Cincinnati City Council member Yvette Simpson.



Westwood Branch Library

by Kathy Bach

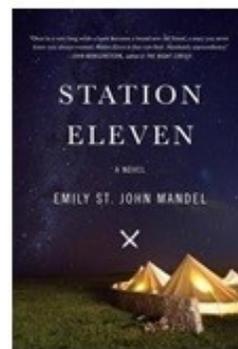


All library locations will be closed on **Monday, May 30th** in observance of the Memorial Day Holiday. We thank all of our fallen soldiers for their dedication.

Programs:

Book Club - Thursday, May 26, 7:00 PM - Adults

This month's selection is *Station Eleven* by Emily St. John Mandel. An audacious, darkly glittering novel set in the eerie days of civilization's collapse, *Station Eleven* tells a spellbinding story.



- ❑ **Between the Pages**—Tuesdays, 4:00 PM—Ages 8-16
 - Weekly tween/teen story hour—get caught up in a good book!
- ❑ **Craft Werk**—Every first Wednesday, 3:00 PM—Ages 8-18
 - Arts and crafts: What you create is up to you!
- ❑ **Book Character Bingo**—Thursday, May 5, 3:00 PM—Ages 6-12
 - In honor of Children's Book Week, play Book Character Bingo for prizes!
- ❑ **STAR WARS Day**—Friday, May 13, 3:00 PM—Teens
 - Celebrate Star Wars Day with games, crafts, and food! May the Fourth Be With You (on Friday the 13th)!
- ❑ **Foam Building**—Thursday, May 19, 4:00 PM—Teens
 - Use foam blocks to make a giant fort or even a maze!
- ❑ **Tabletop Tonight**—Saturday, May 21, 6:30 PM—Ages 14+
 - Join us for an after-hours event of tabletop game and fun! All levels of gaming and roleplaying experience are welcome!
- ❑ **After School Awesome**—Wednesday, May 25, 3:00 PM—Ages 8-14
 - Activities that build inspire, empower and engage tweens. Explore a world of learning fun! The Second and fourth Wednesday of the month.
- ❑ **Movers & Shakers** - Every Wednesday, 10:30 AM—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 Kersten Fund.

Westwood Branch Library
3345 Epworth Avenue
513-369-4474
www.cincinnati.org

Hours of Operation:
Monday/Tuesday/Thursday: 12-8
Wednesday/ Friday/Saturday: 10-6



Officers

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

Board of Directors

Joe Corso	Sara Overstake
Emily Reynolds	Larry Eiser
Trinette Zawadzki	Henry Frondorf Joel Kimmet
Anne Murphy	Thomas Sauter

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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that help ward off the emerald ash borer!**




FOUR DIRECTIONS
studio

Westwood's Yoga Studio, 3030 Harrison
Across from the Westwood Town Hall
thefourdirectionsstudio.com

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

WANT TO KNOW MORE
ABOUT THE WCA?
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
Westwoodcivic.org



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