

Special "Gone With the Wind" issue!

WESTWOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION



# WESTWORDS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION

Have you seen our flags  
missing since the storm?



WESTWOOD CANDIDATES NIGHT TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 14- STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS!

September 2008

www.westwoodcivic.org

Volume 38, Issue 9

## Presidents Message-

This newsletter was mostly finished before the storm, but sat on my computer for a week, waiting for power. We will all be telling our power outage stories for years to come, but I must say that after the first day, I really did not miss my email very much at all. I guess there really was life before computers!

One major loss from the storm was our new flags along Harrison Avenue. They were just installed on Sept. 11, and were all lost in the storm three days later. Some of the flags have been recovered, and we are still searching for the rest. Please contact WCA if you find any of them.



The board of directors of WCA welcomed three new board members at the August meeting. They are **Valerie Baumann, Brian Lee, and Becky Weber.**

We are now fully staffed with 15 board members, and the new members have wasted no time getting involved. Our board is getting younger, bringing fresh ideas, and ready to take on the challenges of making Westwood the best neighborhood it can be.

Westwood is on the right track. Blighted buildings are falling at an increased rate. We need to keep up the pressure on our city

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Westwood Rocks!



Have you noticed the large boulders at the Welcome to Westwood signs on Montana Ave. and Ferguson Ave? They're inscribed with

"WESTWOOD est. 1868". Additional landscaping will follow, and possibly some solar powered lighting for nighttime accenting. The monies for this project came from a \$500.00 mini-grant through Keep Cincinnati Beautiful. Thanks to Mary Kuhl and Duke Energy for the use of a boom truck for the transportation and installation of the rocks.

- John Sess

## ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST! 2551 Harrison Avenue... Gone!



For many years, the apartment building near the corner of Debreck and Harrison has been an eyesore and a haven for drugs, disorder, and crime. The former

Roth Manor and recent Irish Manor was demolished last week.

**Also during the last two weeks,** a house on Stanhope, a house on Gamble, and a four-family on Carmel Terrace were razed. Behind all of these victories are many months (sometimes years) of hard work and determination. Next time you come to a meeting, ask board member **Becky Weber** how she learned the system and made sure that a blighted house on her street was torn down.

## Budget Time in Cincinnati



FROM NOW UNTIL DECEMBER, CITY COUNCIL WILL BE WORKING ON THE BUDGET FOR 2009. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT WE GET INVOLVED IN THIS PROCESS, AND MAKE SURE OUR NEIGHBORHOOD ISN'T LEFT OUT IN THE COLD. THIS YEAR, WE ARE ASKING THE CITY TO MAKE A MAJOR COMMITMENT TO BLIGHT REMOVAL IN WESTWOOD. WE HAVE MADE A GREAT START, AND THE CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS HAVE CREATED BARGAINS GALORE. WE SHOULD BE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THIS SITUATION TO CLEAN UP AS MUCH BLIGHT AS POSSIBLE. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR FAVORITE COUNCIL MEMBERS, AND ASK THEM TO SUPPORT THE WESTWOOD BLIGHT REMOVAL PROJECT FOR 2009.

Presidents message  
(Continued from page 1)

and county leaders to make blight removal a top priority for Westwood. Make that call— send that email- Ask them what they are going to do to help us remove more buildings this year and next. Your communication with our leaders is crucial, and they really do take notice when you contact them.

We had a meeting last month at Midway school to unveil the city's response to our request for the "Road Diet" plan. The city brought a Road Diet expert who gave a presentation, but hadn't done the work of designing the new road, as requested. The turnout was great, and the sentiment (of those who spoke) was overwhelmingly against widening the road. Our neighborhood has been working with the city on this for over two years— it's time to stop fooling around. It's time to get it done.

We are working on a candidates night, and new board member **Brian Lee** has volunteered to lead the effort. We will send a separate notice when details are less murky; but the tentative date is October 14.

See you around the neighborhood!

Jim McNulty

## City goes back to the drawing board on Montana Avenue project



After more than two years of working with the Transportation and Engineering Department, we still don't have our "Road Diet" plan on paper. Hopefully, that will change next month. City council member Roxanne Qualls and 6 others sponsored a motion that should get us our plan completed by the end of October. We need to get this project behind us so we can enjoy our improved roadway, and get working on the upcoming Harrison Ave. improvements. Our goal is to have safe, efficient, attractive, and pedestrian-friendly roads for our neighborhood residents and businesses.



### Print Works

- ◆ Printing
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#### WCA OFFICERS

Term: April 2008- April 2009

##### PRESIDENT-

\*Jim McNulty.....662-8560

##### VICE PRESIDENT-

\*Melva Gweyn.....481-0761

##### VICE PRESIDENT-

\*John Sess.....481-1957

##### RECORDING SECRETARY-

\*Joel Kimmet..... 389-0858

##### TREASURER-

\*Jim Huhn.....481-6545

##### MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY-

Irene McNulty.....662-8560

#### \*WCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Kathy Bach	*Mary Kuhl
*Valerie Baumann	*Brian Lee
*Rick Boyd	*Trent Lewis
*Dick Finn	*Sr. Ann Rene McConn
*Randy Hammann	*Becky Weber

### Upcoming Westwood Civic Association Meetings

Upcoming Meetings-  
Candidates Night— October 14, 2008 7:00 (Tentative)  
October 21, 2008 **7:00** pm WW Town Hall

November meetings— 11/11- Steering Committee  
11/18 - Regular meeting

**Steering Committee Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month. 7:00 PM WTH**

**Regular meetings are the third Tuesday of each month 7:00 PM Westwood Town Hall.**

**All meetings are open to the public, and everyone is welcome.**

#### Monthly Ad Rates

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

### WESTwords

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:  
mrmcnulty@fuse.net or-

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

# Westwood Civic Association Yard of the Month September 2008 Winners

**Neidhard Minges Funeral Home**  
3155 Harrison Ave  
Nominated by Trent and Sharon Lewis

**Judy Scarloto**  
2938 Lafeuille Ave  
Nominated by Vince Greco

**David and Jan Stockton**  
3321 Epworth Ave  
Nominated by Scott Spencer

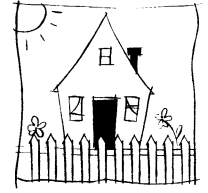
**Rick Garcia**  
3158 Ramona Ave  
Nominated by Gloria Bennett

**Dalbert, Woodruff & Isenogle Funeral Home**  
2880 Boudinot Ave (at Queen City)  
Nominated by Sharon and Trent Lewis

**Gene & Georgia Ilhardt**  
3227 Hildreth Ave  
Nominated by Julie and Randy Davis

**Heather Schneider**  
2935 Veazy Ave  
Nominated by Roxann Clark

**Valerie Baumann**  
3220 Pickbury  
Nominated by A Neighbor



*Correction of name-  
Bill Virata at 2809 Morningridge Dr*

That's it folks— Another summer of Westwood's best flower displays. Thank you for helping us with your nominations.

**-Joan and Gil McLean  
-Kathy Bach- Placing Signs**



## Westwood Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) Results

A decrease in baseline blight index of 23 percent.  
Identifying 625 code violations on 272 properties, following the inspection of 726 properties.  
The demolition of 3 buildings, with 10 more under contract to be demolished.  
325 arrests, confiscation of \$6,285, and responses to 881 calls for service.  
139 inspections for litter and weeds/tall grass.  
876 fire inspections, fire prevention education, and proper smoke detector installation and maintenance.

In addition to the results above, There has been a beautification project ongoing at the intersection of McHenry and Harrison. Kroger did some nice landscaping in front of their store. Thanks to Melva Gweyn for all the work she did clearing brush and cleaning up the area. Also, Melva has ordered flower pots and flags for the intersection, which will be in place when the city approval process is complete.

### Walgreens

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3186 Harrison Ave.  
513-481-3332

\*Additional Rules May Apply



## Westwood Branch Library

School is back in session. Remember the Library for all your study needs. We have millions of books for homework, 16 computers with Internet access, and we are excited to now offer 2 computers with Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint).

And for students, the Library also offers an exciting service called **KnowItNow**.

KnowItNow is a live online information service provided free of charge for the citizens of Ohio by the State Library of Ohio and the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County. **Professional librarians are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to answer your reference questions and assist you in finding information.** Once logged on with your Ohio zip code, you and a librarian engage in a "chat" session. The librarian "pushes" high quality, authoritative online resources to your screen. You can watch and participate as librarians skillfully navigate the Internet to find precise answers to your questions. At the conclusion of each KnowItNow session, you will receive a complete transcript of your session via email including links to all the online resources shared during that session. Visit <http://www.knowitnow.org/> or call 513-369-4474 for more information.

Join us at the Westwood Branch Library for these exciting, **FREE** programs! All programs are **FREE** and open to the public. For information on any of our programs, please contact us at 369-4474.

### PROGRAMS FOR KIDS!



**PRESCHOOL STORYTIME**  
Weekly: Wednesdays at  
10:30 a.m. Ages 3-6

### **DDR for Tweens! (NEW!)**

Join us afterschool and get moving with Dance Dance Revolution! Now on the second Monday each month!

Starting September 8  
3:00-4:00 p.m.

Ages 8-12

### **READ to REEL MOVIES**

3rd Wednesday each month  
at 3:30 p.m.

This month's feature: *Nancy Drew* (PG)

Wednesday, September 17  
3:30 p.m.  
Ages 9 and up



### **BINGO FOR KIDS**

4th Thursday each month from 3:00-4:00 p.m.

### **BINGO for Kids!**

Play for fabulous prizes!

Thursday, September 25  
3:00-4:00 p.m.

Ages 6-12

### **Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month!**

Featuring Herman Recalde of *Salsa Underground*

Saturday, September 27  
2:00 p.m.

All ages

### **Family Movie and Ice Cream**

featuring *Underdog* (PG)

Tuesday, September 30  
6:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:00)

All ages

### **PROGRAMS FOR TEENS!**

*All Teen programs are for ages 12-18.*



### **TEEN SPIRIT**

*Share ideas and help make the library a place where teens want to be!*

Wednesday, September 24  
3:00-4:00 p.m.

### **PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS!**

## **BE A FRIEND TO BOOKS:**

## **NEW Fall Reading Club for Adults September 4-October 25**

Enjoy some reading fun and win prizes. Here's how:

1. Obtain an entry form at any library location or online: <http://www.cincinnati.library.org/news/2008/beafriendtobooks.html>
2. Read or listen to 3 books and/or audiobooks of your choice

3. Bring in your 1st completed entry form to receive a coupon worth \$5 off a \$10 purchase from the Friends of the Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County and to enter the grand prize drawing.

4. Read more books and turn in additional entries to be included in the drawing for a grand prize at each location, a \$25 Friends gift certificate. For every additional 3 books you read, you get another entry into the grand prize drawing!

One lucky winner, selected from the entries received at all locations, will win the ultimate grand prize, a \$100 gift card courtesy of Borders Books, a complimentary one-year membership to the Friends of the Public Library and an invitation for two to the Books by the Banks: Cincinnati USA Book Festival VIP author reception on October 31.

### **Evening Book Club:**

September title: *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen

Thursday, September 25  
7:00 p.m.



### **Hot Summer Sounds Final Concert for '08.**

*Foly Road*. This popular Celtic Folk will set your toes tapping  
Thursday, October 2  
6:30 p.m.

*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.cincinnati.library.org/programs/calendar.html>*

### **Westwood Branch Library**

#### **Hours of Operation:**

3345 Epworth Avenue

Monday/Tuesday/Thursday:  
12-8

513-369-4474

Wednesday/ Friday/

Saturday: 10-6

[www.cincinnati.library.org](http://www.cincinnati.library.org)

# Fire House Day

Saturday, October 11, 2008

1:00 to 5:00PM

Stop by the Firehouse at to:

- Meet and Greet Neighborhood Firefighters
- See the Fire Trucks
- Learn about Thermal Imaging Cameras
- Learn about Smoke Detectors and Fire Safety
- See the Firefighters in their Fire Coats
- Tour the Fire Station
- Ask Questions
- Say Thanks



All Children must be accompanied by an adult.  
Food and Beverages will be provided.

At ALL Cincinnati Fire Stations. Ours is Engine 35 at 3002 Junietta Ave. Across from Town Hall.

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## October Westwood Historical Society Meeting

October 8 2008 7:00 pm

Westwood – An Urban Forest

The trees of Westwood will be the topic of our October meeting featuring Ron Rothhaas Jr, owner of Arbor Doctor LLC.

Discover the kinds of common and not-so-common trees you'll find in Westwood. Learn how over the years, various people ensured that trees remain part of the Westwood landscape through conscious efforts to plant and maintain trees, particularly street trees. As a result, some magnificent trees have been standing guard for many decades and have seen lots of history pass under their boughs.

Ron will also discuss some of the environmental stresses that have been taking their toll on the trees in recent years.

Ron is a Westwood native and resident. His interest in Westwood trees goes back to his high school years when he joined the Westwood Tree Board of the Westwood Civic Association. Ron is a 1988 graduate of The Ohio State University, an ISA Certified Arborist, and a member of the American Society of Consulting Arborists.

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## FROM MOTHER OF MERCY HIGH SCHOOL:

The hottest week of summer made Mother of Mercy's incoming freshmen feel a little cooler when they each received surprise visits at their homes from upperclasswomen in an effort to spread the Mercy spirit.

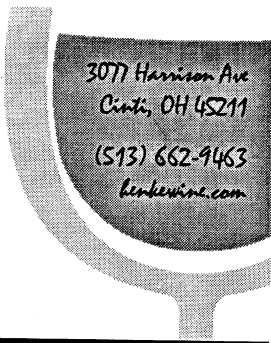
While the freshman class and their families were attending the first annual Freshman Family Mass and Picnic on Tuesday, August 19 on Mercy's campus, carloads of Student Council upperclasswomen toured Cincinnati's west side and distributed "True Blue" yard signs for the families to find when they returned

home.

"The idea behind the yard signs was to introduce each girl and their family to the long-standing spirit of the Mercy family," said Mother of Mercy vice principal Diane Laake.

"They are durable, so on Mercy spirit days and for big athletic events, families can put them out, or they can choose to keep them in their yards all year long!"

Look for a True Blue sign in a yard near you!



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Recommendations and/or treatment for a sick tree or shrub	Site preservation and restoration
Deer repellants	Speaking to your garden club or other group meeting
Deer repellent applications	
Tree Risk Assessment	




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**Westwood is still winning the Mayor's recycling challenge. Keep up the good work! The contest will continue until November. For sign-up information please call 242-4401 X7164 GET A BIN- HELP WESTWOOD WIN!**

