

**Sick of Trucks and Commuter Traffic?
Come give 'em what for and how come!
Important Public Hearing
Thursday, December 3 at 6 PM
ODOT, 1980 West Broad Street**

**The Harrison West Society's next meeting:
Thursday, November 12, 7:30 PM at the
Godman Guild, 321 West Second Avenue
Police Liaison Officer;
Riverfront Commons; Holiday Potluck Plans;
Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund**

Harrison West News

November 1998

"A Neighborhood on the National Register of Historic Places"

VOL. 9 NO.11

ODOT to Hold Impact Hearing on Spring- Sandusky Traffic

Members of the Harrison West, Victorian Village, Dennison Place and Italian Village neighborhoods will have the opportunity to tell highway officials about the effects of the increases in commuter and truck traffic on their residential streets. On Thursday, December 3, the Ohio Department of transportation (ODOT) will host a hearing to seek public comment on the impacts of the Spring-Sandusky Interchange on historic districts located adjacent to the project. The hearing is scheduled to convene at 6 PM at the ODOT offices, located in the Hilltop at 1980 West Broad Street. Efforts are underway to move the hearing closer to our historic district.

Substantial changes have been made to the project since the 1978 planning documents were begun and approved in 1983. "This is the neighborhood's opportunity to ask ODOT and the Federal Highway Administration to address the new traffic congestion created by changes in Spring-Sandusky and resolve the gridlock predicted by the traffic studies on neighborhood streets" said HWS President Craig Copeland.

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Cops, Commons, Cash & Cookin'

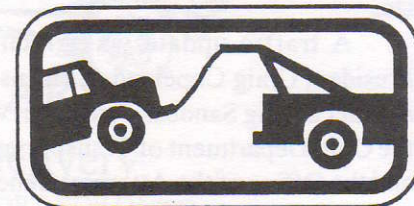
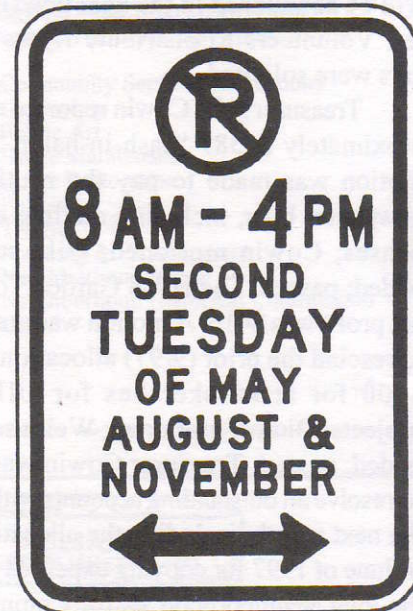
At the November 12 HWS meeting, our precinct Liaison Officer Tom Paulus will speak at 7:30. George Tabit of Riverfront Commons will give an update at 8:30 on their plans to create a design handbook for the river corridor. In between we'll have an efficient business meeting focusing on the Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund and plans for next month's Potluck. Everyone is welcome.

City Money Available Now

It's time again to develop project proposals for the Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund. \$2.5 million is available in 1999 for capital improvement needs in central city neighborhoods.

In the past Harrison West has been awarded \$75,000 for improvements to the Harrison West Park and \$65,000 to repair and replace damaged lighting. Other neighborhoods have received funding for curbs, sidewalks, streetscapes, entrance signs, landscaping, brick street restoration, and pocket parks.

Bring your ideas to the November 12 HWS meeting or contact John Cowin at 291-7063 or Keith Dimoff at 424-6798. Proposals will be submitted to the City in early December.



The City's street sweeping program returns to Harrison West on November 10 and 11. The north and east sides will be swept on Tuesday. The south and west sides will be swept on Wednesday. See the related article on page 8.

HARRISON WEST SOCIETY MINUTES October 8, 1998

Submitted by Keith Dimoff, Secretary

The meeting started at approximately 7:35 P.M. at the Godman Guild. Andrew Wall, a local consultant, presented information on old home restoration and maintenance, covering topics such as tuckpointing, floors, exterior wood repair, paint and fireplaces.

A motion was made to approve the last meeting's minutes as printed in the newsletter; Dimoff motioned; Cowin seconded; passed.

The November street sweeping will be announced in the next newsletter. Volunteers to distribute flyers to cars were solicited.

Treasurer John Cowin reported approximately \$4389 "cash-in-hand". A motion was made to pay the routine newsletter bills, including mailing expenses; Cowin motioned; Gilp seconded; passed. The HWS Garden Tour net profit was \$416. A motion was made to rescind the prior (9/97) allocation of \$400 for artist sketches for UIRF projects; Dimoff motioned; Weisz seconded; passed. Treasurer Cowin wants to resolve all outstanding accounts within the next month, including the allocation in June of 1997 for copying expenses for the Joint Neighborhood Traffic Committee.

A traffic update was given by President Craig Copeland. Citizens for a Better Spring Sandusky have met with the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Office of the Attorney General. Presentations have been made to various groups, including Nationwide Insurance. If negotiations aren't meaningful or productive, a lawsuit will be filed in federal court.

The list of Block Captains for Citizens for a Better Spring Sandusky is being organized by Vice President Maddy

Weisz. The Block Captains are used to pass along information, such as meeting dates.

The engineering estimate for Michigan Avenue traffic after completion of the Spring Sandusky Interchange is eight thousand cars per day.

Public art grants are available. Selection of a project can be a community-building exercise. Suggestions at the meeting included historical signage and neighborhood entryways. Those neighbors who are interested in public art or who have projects to suggest should contact VP Weisz or Secretary Keith Dimoff.

The coupon book for new HWS members or renewals is still available from VP Weisz.

The new owner of the old Morretti's properties on Oregon and Michigan Avenues reportedly intends to build multi-family apartments or condos. A zoning variance was sought in September. The same owner is building on the southeast corner of Third Avenue and Perry Street. Attendees were supportive of extending an invitation to the new owner to meet with the HWS to build a positive relationship.

The HWS Holiday Potluck, with a theme of "Local Holiday Memories", will be held on December 10 as part of the regular monthly meeting. The contact is VP Weisz.

At the October 2 meeting with Battelle, the HWS presented many ideas regarding Battelle's Master Landscaping Plan. The preliminary plan by Battelle is expected to be released in early December. The contact is Secretary Dimoff.

(Continued on Page 3)

Harrison West News

is the monthly publication of the Harrison West Society, Inc.

Officers

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Craig Copeland 299-3737

VICE PRESIDENT

Maddy Weisz 291-2285

SECRETARY

Keith Dimoff 424-6798

TREASURER

John Cowin 291-7063

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Editor Veda Gilp 299-6877

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Terms Payment for ALL ads is due by the 15th of the month the ad runs. Ads not paid within 30 days will be dropped until payment is made. Prepayment for 12 months earns the gratitude of the Harrison West Society. Make checks payable to Harrison West Society and send to Veda Gilp, 937 S. Third Street, Columbus 43206. Ads which are created by the Harrison West News are the property of the Harrison West News and cannot be used in other publications.

The Harrison West News reserves the right to decline any advertising which does not meet editorial and advertising guidelines.

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Harrison West Society meets 2nd Thursday of each month at Godman Guild, 321 Second Avenue, 7:30 PM.

Harrison West Society Minutes

(Continued from Page 2)

The HWS Holiday Lights Contest will be held December 17-20. Volunteer judges are welcome. The contact is Editor Veda Gilp.

Calendar reminders were given regarding the river cleanup with Battelle, Candidates Night and the clothing drive by the New Life Methodist Church.

Crime in the neighborhood was again discussed. Officer Tom Paulus, the Liaison Officer, is the proper contact for many questions and complaints. The HWS will continue to include crime statistics and other info in the newsletter.

A motion was made to adjourn; Dimoff motioned; Weisz seconded; passed. Adjourned at 9 PM.



Police Report

The Columbus Division of Police "Internet Substation" (<http://www.police.ci.columbus.oh.us>) breaks out the crime reports into cruiser districts.

Cruiser district #12 covers the eastern half of Harrison West and beyond, bordered by Michigan Avenue, First Avenue, Dennison Avenue and King Avenue.

Cruiser District #13 covers the western half of Harrison West and beyond, bordered by the C&O Railroad tracks (just west of Olentangy River Road), King Avenue, Michigan Avenue and First Avenue.

For September, Cruiser District #12 reported:

- 2 Forcible rapes
- 2 Robberies
- 1 Aggravated Assault
- 1 Other Assaults
- 7 Burglaries
- 3 Vehicle Thefts

For September, Cruiser District #13 reported:

- 5 Burglaries
- 1 Vehicle Theft

Fighting Crime

Tip of the month: Be streetwise and safe. Stand tall and walk confidently. Watch where you're going and what's going on around you. If harassed from a car, walk quickly or run in the opposite direction to safety.

Remember the value of calling the police to report crimes and suspicious activity. For non-emergencies, call 645-4545 to file a report.

Also remember that the Harrison West News is available to publish information on block watches or other crime prevention efforts.



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Holiday Remembrance Potluck

If you enjoy good people, food and remembrances of the neighborhood, mark your calendar for December 10.

Rather than a regular meeting, the Society is having a "Holiday Remembrances Potluck" on the second Thursday of December from 6:30 to 9:00. This will be held at the Harrison House, the Bed and Breakfast at the southwest corner of Harrison and Fifth Avenues.

The B&B, owned by Sandy and Don Davis, will be decorated for the Christmas holiday and is worth visiting for that alone.

We are inviting those in the neighborhood who have memories of our community in years past to join us and share their stories.

If you or one of your neighbors has a story to share, please call Maddy Weisz at 291-2285. If someone doesn't like to speak in front of a group, another person would gladly relate the story.

It should be a good time, one which we'll cherish as our own holiday memory. Please come to this special event.

ODOT to Hold Impact Hearing on Spring-Sandusky Traffic

(Continued from Page 1)

Victorian Village's Beth Brown stated, "The hearing is being conducted pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, which requires Federal agencies to consider the effects of their actions on historic properties and seek comments. Because SSI is funded through Federal tax dollars, these regulations are applicable." "Effects" as defined in these regulations include the actual physical "taking" (demolition) of properties--such as the buildings that will be destroyed in Italian Village--as well as the introduction of "visual, audible, or atmospheric elements that are out of character with the historic property and alter its setting". The agency must find ways to reduce the effects and must seek public input.

In a 106 guidance document published by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, it is stated: "potential effects of a highway construction

project might include...areas where visual or audible changes could occur; and areas where the project could result in modified traffic patterns that might affect the livability...of historic districts." "Sounds like us!" Beth added.

Members of the community have been in contact with the City for years about changes in traffic in the Near Northside Historic District due to Spring-Sandusky. This hearing is the opportunity to go "on the record" with demands for resolution. As part of this federal funding process, ODOT must seek concurrence with the Advisory Council. The goal is to get much-needed changes made to SSI, so that it functions effectively in moving commuters, thus keeping them off our streets.

Leaders of the Victorian Village Society, the Harrison West Society, the Dennison Place Association, and Friends of Goodale Park will be giving testimony at this hearing. In addition, testimony is needed from individual property owners in the area. Please plan to attend to put in your two cents' worth and support your neighbors who will be speaking.

For more information, call Beth Brown (294-7441), Craig Copeland (299-3737), or Tim Wagner (291-3337).

HOME OF THE MONTH

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Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed Seek Support

By Amanda Davey, FLOW, in coordination with Craig Copeland, President, Harrison West Society

The Harrison West community has long played a key role in organizing and participating in the larger community that is Columbus. As community activists and good neighbors, citizens of Harrison West recognize the importance the Olentangy River plays in their lives. Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed (FLOW) asks for your support in protecting this precious natural, cultural, and historical resource.

The Lower Olentangy Watershed includes, of course, the river itself from about the Franklin Delaware county border to the confluence with the Scioto River downtown. The watershed also includes all of the streams and tributaries that flow into the river in this area: the historic ravines, every brook, creek, stream, run, and current. Also, every pond, spring, wetland, reservoir, and puddle. And probably, most important, all the life that lives in and around the watershed: every insect, plant, bird, tree, and shrub. Every man, woman and child. In short, the Lower Olentangy Watershed is an ecosystem. It is vibrant and alive. And it is a part

of all of our lives.

FLOW organized in August 1997. We are a private, non-profit organization dedicated to increasing public awareness of the extensive recreational, cultural, historic, and environmental resources of the Lower Olentangy Watershed, and to promoting responsible policies and uses of the river. Our goal is to implement a watershed action plan, involving all affected parties, that works to decrease pollution running off the landscape and into the river. FLOW has received four grants totaling \$35,100. In addition we have raised \$1,750 in membership dues and contributions.

The largest role we play in the community is education and awareness. We've had two cleanups at Rush Run Park. In June we celebrated the river with our first annual Big River Day. And on Oct. 12 we had an education day at the site where the proposed Morse-Bethel Connector would be built. Last fall we wrote an editorial piece about the Spring-Sandusky Interchange. Last spring FLOW representatives testified at the public hearings held for the

project.

Our monthly meetings have programs that focus on educating citizens about water quality and the history of the area. When contentious issues arise, we focus on providing information so members and citizens can make informed decisions on questions affecting the river. Our meetings are usually held the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM at Whetstone Library on N. High Street by the Park of Roses. Our next meeting is November 10. The speaker is Hugh Gibbs, a Cherokee Indian who will speak about the indigenous peoples that inhabited the Olentangy River valley. Hugh is a long-time resident of Columbus, has been a source for many books about indigenous people, and is a member of the Olentangy Indian Conference.

The southern tip of the watershed is critical for any preservation and education efforts. We need more people from the Harrison West area to join us in our efforts. We hope to see you soon.

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Sunday 9:30 AM Sunday School
10:40 AM Worship Service
6:00 PM Worship Service
Monday 7:00 PM Bible Study
Tuesday 5:30 PM Music Practice
6:30 PM Little Women
Wednesday 9:30 AM Homemakers
6:30 PM Boys' Brigade
Friday 6:30 PM Women's
Missionary Group



Steve Tway (1943-1998)

We in Harrison West have lost a vital member of our community. Steve Tway passed away on Monday, October 12.

He left behind many friends who cared deeply for him, as evidenced by his well-attended memorial service. After hearing the numerous heartfelt testimonials to his character, one mourner quipped, "That was the best funeral I've ever been to." Steve, with his good sense of humor, would surely have laughed.

He is survived by two sons and his close companion and wife of twenty years, Veda Gilp, editor of the Harrison West News.

The former sawmill man, Army veteran and avid birdwatcher was an asset to the neighborhood, contributing time and talent to the Harrison West Society and the Urban Oasis Coalition. He will be greatly missed.

Last Meeting's Speaker: Fixing Up Your Old Home

Andrew Wall, the Old Home Expert consultant known throughout Italian Village and German Village, gave us some good home restoration tips at the October 8 Harrison West Meeting. Since 1988, he has been restoring historical structures and telling people how to do the work themselves.

For instance, he said that in redoing the standard double-hung windows in our historic homes, a new part made of extruded plastic will eliminate the rattle and air leaks. Unfortunately, you can't buy this piece at Lowes, but Andrew can get it for you.

His attitude is that there usually is a solution to any problem. Finding the solution is the key.

His suggestions were to refer to the Historic Resources Preservation Commission downtown for their library of books, briefs, articles that can help. He also likes "Old Home Journal" for helpful tips on how to work on our old houses.

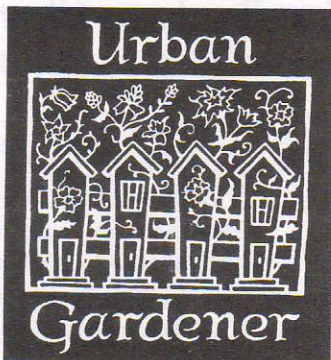
Looking for exterior wood trim around doors and windows? Wall would send you to Herbst Black Lumber on the south side, or to Dodson or McNally lumber companies for help. These companies specialize in milling and matching woodwork.

Tuckpointing: match color of mortar to the old mortar, add extra sand, but you must be really careful, because the old foundation stones can actually be damaged by incorrect mortar.

More tips; when hiring someone to work on your house, find someone who likes to do restoration work, so they will take the necessary time and pains to do the work well. He reminded us all that restoration is not simply construction.

He had some interesting advice for us who are about to paint, also. "Do what you like and the Commission will allow," he says. Wall's most important general rule about paint is to use paint and primer from the same manufacturer and to clean the surface well, or the paint won't stick.

Did you know that latex paints let your house breathe, so it's good for old homes, but that oil paints should always be used on columns because they are hollow and shouldn't breathe?



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Sixth Annual Seat Cover Campaign

As Christmas approaches, the New Life United Methodist Church clothing Room is asking for donations of new socks and underwear for the men, women and children they serve in their ministry who are poor or homeless. Please take your donations to the New Life United Methodist Church at 25 West Fifth Avenue any Tuesday or Wednesday between 9 and 11:30 AM and on Saturday November 21 from 10 to 2. If you are unable to deliver your donations, call 294-0134 for pick up arrangements. If you prefer to make a cash donation, please make checks payable to the New Life United Methodist Church. It's a good cause that will put you in the true holiday spirit.

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Select one: Individual \$10 Senior (60 and over) \$5 Sustaining \$25 Patron (Business) \$30
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Help Distribute Street Sweeping Flyers

Want to keep your neighbor's car from being towed? Help us distribute flyers in the next day or two!

In May and August, volunteers from the Harrison West Society blanketed parked cars with flyers to remind car owners of the city's scheduled street sweeping. Now it's time for one more round.

Help your neighbors by putting the flyers on windshields before the sweep. Flyers (and a sign-up sheet) are available on the front porch of 514 West Third Avenue. We've already lined up volunteers for Bradley, Michigan, Oregon, Perry and Third. We still need people for First, Fourth, Harrison, Pennsylvania and Second Avenues and Vermont Place.

Take a half hour and save your neighbors a ticket and towing charge.

Olentangy Gets Picked Clean

The October 10 river cleanup was a success.

On the memorable, beautiful, clear Autumn day, a team of Battelle and Harrison West volunteers collected many bags of trash from both banks of the Olentangy River between Third and Fifth Avenues.

Many thanks to Laura Daily, Keith Dimoff, Maddy Weisz, Mary Funk and other hard workers for attending.



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(in Victorian Village)

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Saturday: 4 p.m. (Tridentine (Latin) Mass)

Sunday: 9 and 11 a.m.

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Monday through Friday: 6 p.m.

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(Tridentine Mass)

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