

90 Minute Meeting Guarantee

May 2001 12/05

HARRISON WEST NEWS

A Neighborhood on the National Register of Historic Places



STREET SWEEPING

(R)
8 AM - 4 PM
SECOND TUES/WED
OF MAY AUGUST & NOVEMBER



Commercial Overlay and Rezoning Pass!

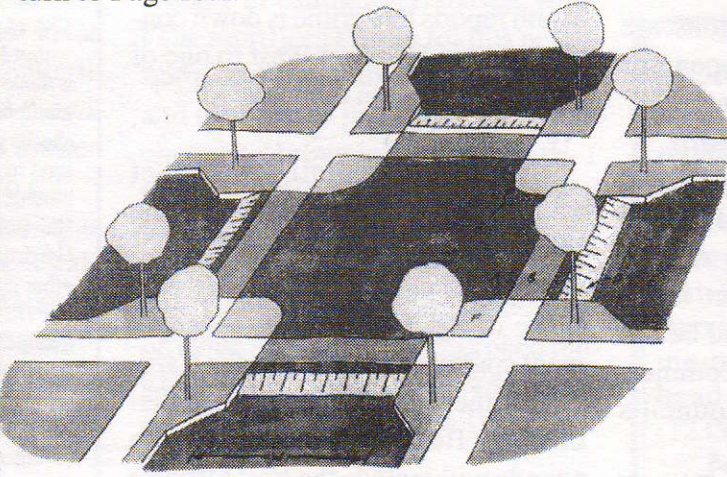
In April, City Council passed both the commercial zoning overlay and the residential rezoning for Harrison West. No new strip malls on Third Avenue. More new single and double family houses. Special thanks to the Society's Rob Harris, Keith Dimoff and Mary Funk and to City Council.

Harrison West Society Election May 10

The Harrison West Society's officers will be chosen by the Society's voting membership at the May 10 meeting's annual election. The current slate includes Keith Dimoff for President and Mary Funk for Vice President. Nominations for any of the four offices may be made at the meeting. Or contact the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Ken Wightman, at 294-5335.

Wow! Good News on Traffic??? See Pages 4 and 5

Wow! One of the nation's top traffic engineers has presented a draft Overall Traffic Management Plan for Harrison West and nearby neighborhoods. Wow! To reduce cut-through traffic, increase safety and respect our neighborhood's historic character, the proposal calls for redesigning intersections and returning side streets to brick. Wow! Maybe the years of legal wrangling between the neighborhoods and the government will pay off? Wow! To see what's possible in Harrison West, turn to Page four.



This raised intersection and brick street illustration is what is proposed for most of the intersections of side streets in Harrison West, Pennsylvania and Second, for instance.

Next Meeting: Elections Public Art \$1,000 Contribution Traffic Plan

At the May 10 meeting of the Harrison West Society, we'll vote for officers for the coming year, consider donating another \$1,000 to the Public Art project, and see what the City's traffic expert has planned for the neighborhood. The meeting should be fast and productive. Come on down!

NEXT MEETING

The Harrison West Society will meet Thursday, May 10 at 7:30 PM Godman Guild 321 W. Second Ave.

INSIDE

- Traffic Plan Unveiling
- HW Public Art Funds
- Mahaffey Award
- Crime Down
- Bike Path Litter Pickup
- Braddock's Diner

HARRISON WEST SOCIETY MINUTES

April 12, 2001

By Veda Gilp for Karla Eldridge,
Secretary

The meeting began at 7:33 with a quorum of voting members present, President Keith Dimoff presiding.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Old Business and Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report Treasurer John Cowin reported \$3,551.88 in the treasury. Cowin motioned to pay the regular expenses of publishing the newsletter. Passed.

The Audit Committee reported that it found the Treasurer's Report of income and disbursement reasonable. Mary Funk motioned to accept the Audit Committee report. Passed.

Membership Committee Chair Mark Hamsher reported 83 renewals or new members. Gilp motioned to allocate funds for a second mailing to previous members. Passed.

Nomination Committee Chair Ken Wightman nominated Keith Dimoff for President; Mary Funk for Vice President. Two positions are open. The floor will be open for nominations at the May meeting.

Planning and Development

Zoning President Dimoff and Vice President Funk reported that the Rezoning was tabled at the April 6 City Council meeting, but is on Council's agenda and should be approved on April 23. The Commercial Overlay is also on Council's agenda.

A.C. Humko President Dimoff reported that Humko has ceased production and that a real estate broker is working to sell the property. We discussed the Society's next step to

get the most from the property for Harrison West.

Fifth & Perry Greenspace President Dimoff reported that Battelle has agreed to cover the extended cost beyond the initial \$5,000 budget to complete the project this summer.

Public Art Committee Co-Chair Mandy Butler reported that the site plans are being completed and the contract is being formalized. Committee needs another \$10,000 to finish the project.

Traffic Committee Dave Butler and Keith Dimoff reported on the Traffic Consultant's suggestions for traffic calming in the Short North neighborhoods.

Urban Infrastructure Recovery Funds Chair John Cowin reported that the upcoming meeting with the City will explain what the City will fund this year.

Police Liaison Officer Steve Smith reports that crime is down considerably in Harrison West to one of the lowest rates in the City.

New Business

Mary Funk motioned to set aside \$150 for improvements for the Harrison West Park. Passed.

We discussed the possible purchase of the Broad Street Management apartments in HW by the Campus Partners. Budget items were discussed. Items for next month's agenda will include the Post Office's plans to end Saturday delivery and a proposed disbursement of \$1000 for the public art project.

Adjourned at 9:10 P.M..

HARRISON WEST NEWS

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

Officers**PRESIDENT**

Keith Dimoff 424-6798

VICE PRESIDENT

Mary Funk 291-9545

SECRETARY

Karla Eldridge

kkeld@columbus.rr.com

TREASURER

John Cowin 291-7063

Editorial and Advertising**Information:**

Editor Veda Gilp 299-6877,444-4532(w), fax 444-1710,
vedagilp@msn.com

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

Public Art Project Committee Searching for Matching Funds

Harrison West Society to pledge \$1,000 to draw Matching Funds

Putting its money where the art is, the Harrison West Society is proposing to contribute \$1,000 to the Side-by-Side Public Art Project, and challenges residents of Harrison West to match that contribution.

Side by Side, the project created by the Public Art Project Committee for Harrison West is in the last stages of planning, contracting, and fund-raising before the sculptures are cast, Mandy Butler reports. What's needed now is the final \$10,000. Contributions will be tax deductible, as soon as the BrickStreets Arts Foundation gets its 501(C)(3) classification.

Reasons to Join Harrison West Society #90

It's helping make Harrison West one of the lowest crime-rate areas in the City!

Good News and Bad News on the Crime Scene

Neighborhood Police Liaison Officer Steve Smith reports that crime is down in Harrison West to one of the lowest rates in the City.

For the bad news: someone's picking on Pennsylvania Avenue. In March, of the seven burglaries, auto thefts, and thefts from autos reported in our neighborhood, five of them were on Pennsylvania Avenue.

June 2 Weeding and Litter Pickup Along the Olentangy River Bike Path

Harrison West, Battelle, FLOW, the University District Organization, and the City of Columbus are sponsoring a weeding and litter pickup on the Olentangy River Bike Path between Third Avenue and King Avenue on June 2 from 9 am to 11:30 am. There will be a small cookout immediately after the weeding and litter pickup.

Meet at the Battelle Warehouse parking lot by the Fifth Avenue Bridge (southeast corner of Fifth Avenue and the Olentangy River) at 9am.

Kids are welcome, but parents are responsible for the safety of their children. There will be some educational information for the kids about the types of trees that have been planted along the Olentangy River bike path during past tree plantings.

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Traffic Expert Works to Protect Neighborhood

Remember Harrison West's streets in 1992, before freeway ramps started closing permanently as part of the Spring Sandusky Interchange? Cars didn't cut through Harrison West at the volumes they do today, nor at the volumes that are expected to hit our neighborhood. As a federally registered historic district harmed by the interchange, local groups have long pushed for a plan to lower the cut-through traffic. Here are some of the recently unveiled proposals by the national traffic expert hired to work with the Traffic Task Force.

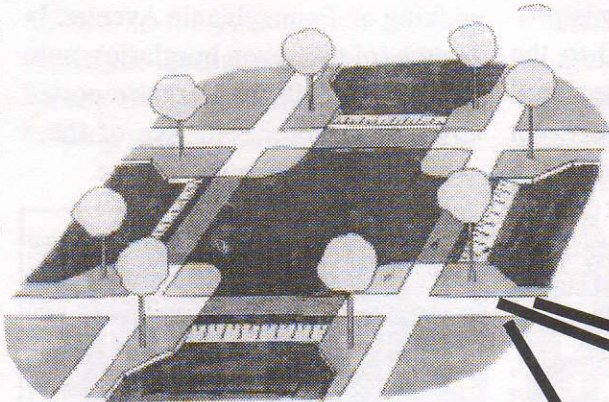
To see additional proposed traffic calming graphics, check out the "OTMP Concepts" link on the Near Northside Historic District's website: www.geocities.com/nnhist_dist/.

City Councilwoman Maryellen O'Shaughnessy, City Council and the Administration have been instrumental in bringing the national firm Glatting-Jackson onto this project. Thanks! This proposal is modeled on other successful traffic projects already

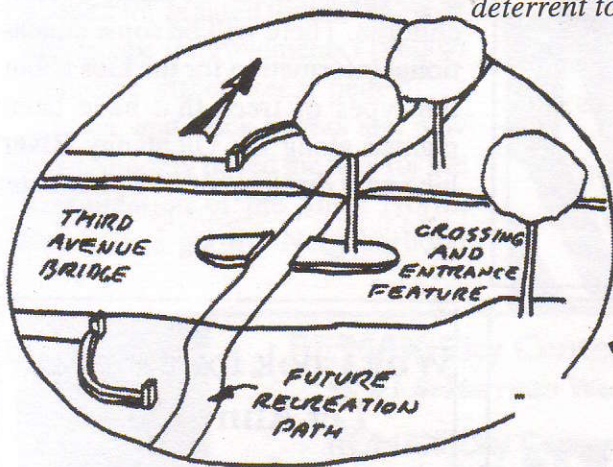
in place around the U.S., adapted to our neighborhood's historic character.

The plan, if implemented completely and not underfunded, could help to reclaim the pedestrian character of Harrison West from 21st century traffic. Next step in the process

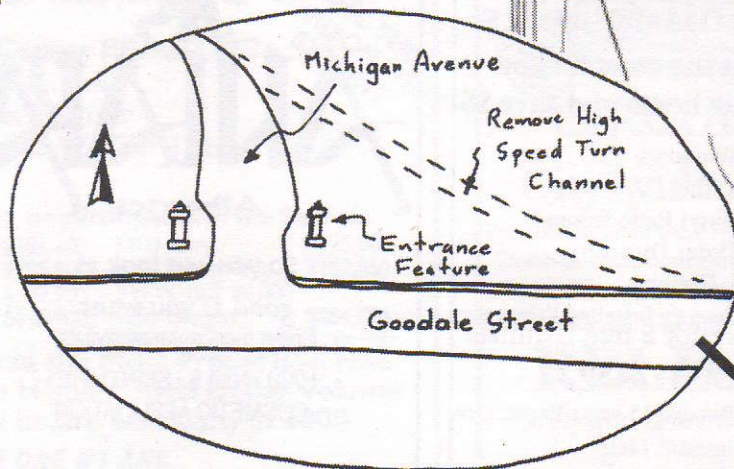
—Funding packages and scheduling commitments.



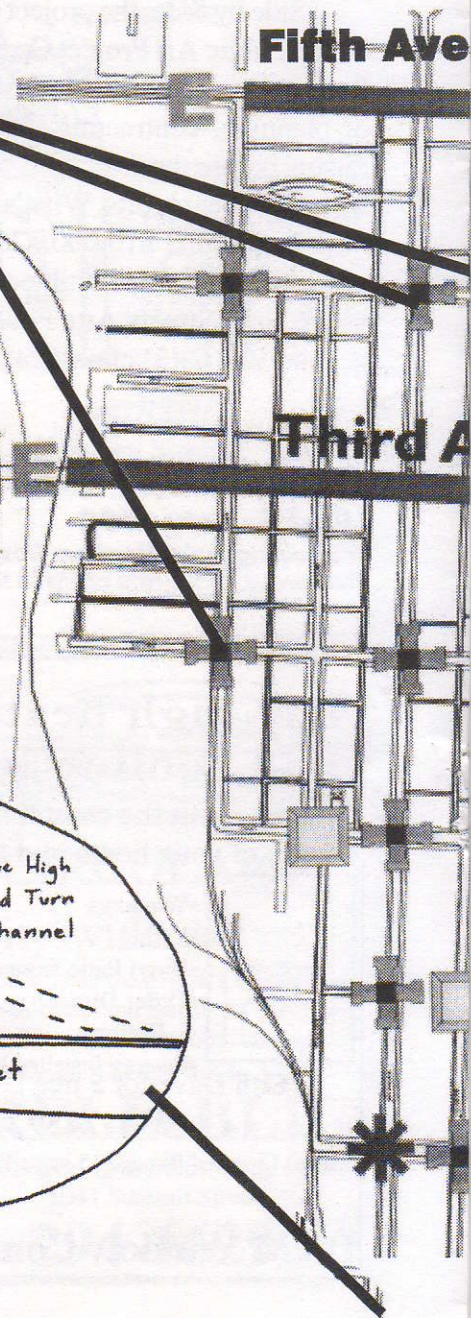
Raised brick intersections throughout Harrison West, making our streets more pedestrian friendly, convenient for us to drive, but a deterrent to cut-through commuter traffic.



Third Avenue



Michigan Avenue

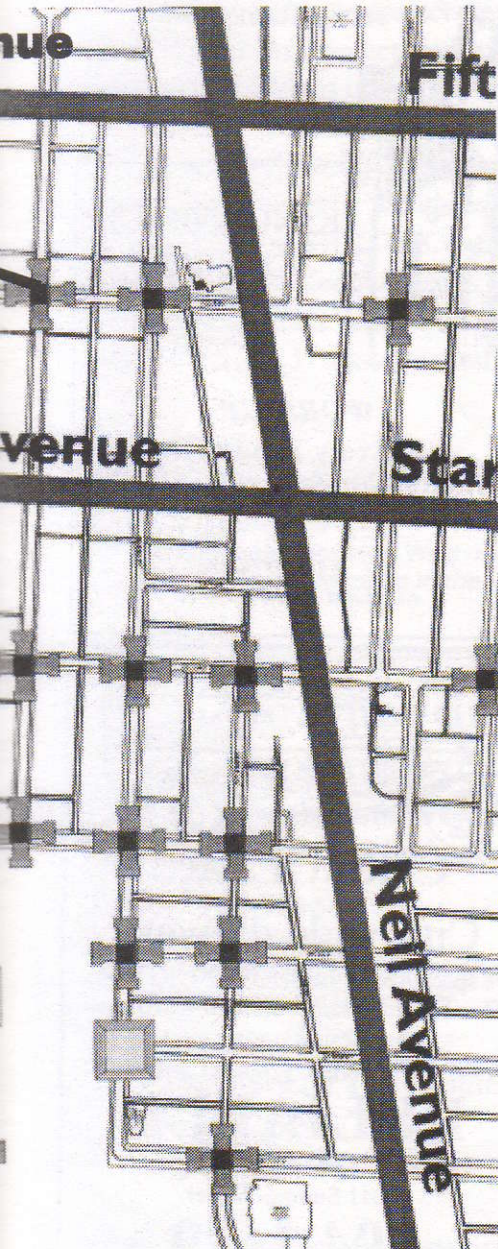
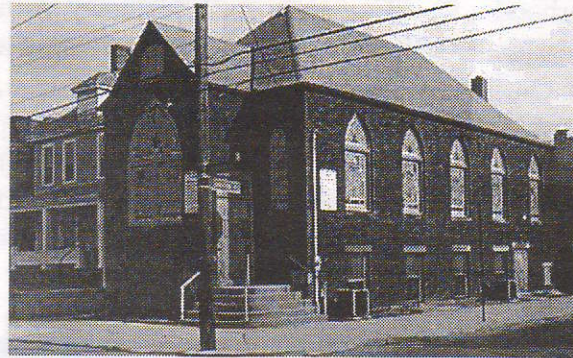


The next Traffic Task Force meeting is scheduled for June 20th at 5:30 PM at the Westminster Thurber Auditorium, 717 Neil Avenue, although a late May meeting is possible. The HW Society contacts are Dave Butler at 421-7157 and Keith Dimoff at 424-6798.

Neighborhood Invited to Church Dedication May 12

Everyone is welcome to the rededication of the First Brethren Church. Attendees will include City Councilman Richard Sensenbrenner, national clergy and other dignitaries. Pastor Richard Morris is eager to show off

their fine renovation of the church at Third and Oregon Avenues. The church is a valuable part of Harrison West, so please join in its rededication on Sunday, May 12 at 3 PM. Refreshments provided.



Join the Harrison West Society

Please complete this form and mail it, along with your appropriate contribution to Harrison West Society, Membership Committee, 344 W. Fourth Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43201. Membership dues are paid each calendar year.

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Eva Mahaffey Given Short North Award

Eva Mahaffey was honored with the Short North Neighborhood Foundation Community Leadership Award at the first annual Mardi Gras Masked Ball held Friday, March 2, 2001 at the Greek Orthodox Church. The award recognizes and honors an individual who was active in the early efforts to improve the neighborhoods of the Short North.

Eva embodies the spirit of renewal and revival in the Short North. As a building owner, business owner/operator, landlord, resident and community activist, Eva spurred along the city and her neighbors in the late seventies and early eighties to implement many improvements we take for granted today; the NCR streetscape improvements (1980-4) including street trees, pedestrian lighting, and brick pavers and new curbs, literally paved the way for the revitalization of the Short North. Eva helped get the Neighborhood

Design Assistance Center up and running around the same time by leasing a storefront to Bob Busser and his staff at 1128 N. High, next door to her Mary Catherine Antiques.

Eva also worked closely with Godman Guild over the years, as a leader of the Guild's business league, known as the Association of Near Northside Businesses (later the Short North Business Association) and helping sponsor an annual Christmas

party for children in the neighborhood. Her residence in Victorian Village was one of the first and finest residential renovations in the area and it remains a social and cultural center of activity. After suffering ill health for the past year, Eva's now officially retired from Mary Catherine's but continues to help her daughter Melanie run the business and continues to personally manage the apartment building. Eva's wide-ranging efforts over the years deserve recognition.

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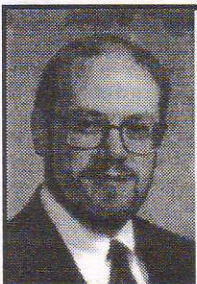
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Eadie Gourmet Eats Out at Braddock's Diner

(Continued from Page 8)

The wings were OK, spicy, pretty good, but nothing special.

The onion rings were good, very crispy. Crawfish fritters ... it took some talking to get the others to try them, but once they did, they came back for more! These are lightly spicy, not greasy, very flavorful.

Braddock's Diner boasts a diner burger, foot long chili dog, Monte Cristo sandwich, fried bologna, and egg salad on the diner side. All are served with french fries, coleslaw, or potato salad.

On the upscale side, the menu extends to a Muffuletta, which is white cheddar, smoked baby Swiss, hard salami, ham, and olive salad, stuffed into Tapatio's red pepper chili bread. A really good muffuletta is worth the damage it does to your arteries.

John had the Cuban Panino, sliced roasted pork loin, smoked ham, Swiss cheese, tomato, mustard, and pickles, which is pressed and grilled. He pronounced it OK, but not great. Probably part of his lack of enthusiasm sprang from the fact that the sandwich had been pressed and toasted until the bread was too hard to eat.

Jenny had the Pittsburgh steak salad: greens, sliced ribeye steak, french fries, egg, tomato, scallions, and cheddar cheese. Imagine a regular dinner salad with room-temperature steak sliced on top, then the whole topped with limp, greasy french fries. NOT GOOD!

On to Molly's entree, which was blackened shrimp nachos. This sounds as if it would be great: tortilla chips, black beans, tomatoes,

scallions, jalapenos, cheese, sour cream, Jose Madrid salsas, and guacamole, topped with big spicy shrimp. Kind of a shrimp-lovers nachos. In other hands, it probably would have been excellent. Unfortunately, the shrimps were tiny and blackened into toughness.

Lauren ordered the Southern Fried chicken, which is the only reason to eat at Braddock's Diner that we found. It probably wasn't fried in a big iron skillet, but it hinted at such an origin. The serving was a big crispy breast and thigh and really good mashed potatoes. We all gazed longingly at Lauren's plate, as we tried to find something edible on ours. She's a good friend. She shared.

I had the fish sandwich, which is walleye dipped in beer batter, served on a sub bun. The bun dwarfed the small piece of fish, and perhaps because it was Sunday evening, seemed slightly stale and flavorless.

The menu instructs you to ask for some "Dat'l Do It" sauce. Don't bother. As served us, it's catsup. Period.

Dessert. I always order dessert when I'm eating for Harrison West. (The sacrifices I make for this neighborhood.) The table ordered peach and blackberry pie, carrot cake, and chocolate brownie sundae. DON'T ORDER PIE! The fruit is mushy and the crust is gooey. The carrot cake is OK, moist, with no icing overload. I can't comment on the chocolate brownie sundae, which morphed into a chocolate brownie banana split sundae sans banana, and didn't do a good job of either.

Braddock's diner also does breakfast, which I've heard is better, but expensive for what you get.

What's Going On?

If it's happening in Harrison West or nearby; or if it's a freebie downtown, you'll probably find it on the Community Calendar. The Community Calendar is on our web site. Both the Community Calendar and the Discussion Area ("Talk About It") are interactive, meaning you can put in your own information—share it with others.

The Harrison West Web Site—neighborhoodlink.com/columbus/harrison—is a great way to network. Simply type the Internet address into a web browser and visit the site to see how useful it can be. Once you arrive, we encourage you to bookmark the site so you can return easily and often!

Reasons to Join Harrison West Society #1250

The meetings are so exciting, plus they don't last very long!:

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ELECTIONS
Traffic Plan Unveiled
Public Arts Matching Funds
Crime Down
Zoning Passes!

Eadie Gourmet Eats Out at Braddock's Diner

by Veda Gilp

Neighbors Lauren Creighten, Molly Maccracken, Jenny and John Gable, and I recently tried the new Braddock's Diner at the North Market in the space formerly occupied by Frank's Diner.

The decor still is diner, with lots of bright yellow, black, and chrome. A bar has been added, so OJ needn't be your only tippie.

A word of warning: on Sunday or after the Market is closed, it's hard to find the right door to the Diner. You need to enter on the south side of the Market off Front Street. It looks like a service door, but it takes you upstairs.

I wish I could say we loved it, but, frankly, we were hard put to find anything really good to say about the food or the menu. The service was fine, though we were the only customers in the place!

This is supposed to be an up-scale diner with some diner-type foods and some up-scale-type foods. Doesn't work either way.

We began with a series of appetizers: Buffalo Wings, chili cheese fries, onion rings, and Cajun crawfish fritters. What can I say? The chili cheese fries needed more cheese and less chili, which made the fries very soggy, almost gooey. These are State Fair-style fries, which start out greasy. The cheese was supposed to be melted sharp white cheddar, but looked and tasted like plain yellow cheddar. Altogether, this was an appetizer no one finished.

(Continued on Page 7)

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HARRISON WEST NEWS

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