

Help Reach Our Goal! Join the HWS at the Holiday Potluck!

December 2003 14/12

HARRISON WEST NEWS

A Neighborhood on the National Register of Historic Places

Humko Redevelopment News Better and Better for Harrison West

Developer Mark Wagenbrenner and Architect Rob Harris brought two surprises to the last Harrison West meeting when they presented the revised site plans for the redevelopment of the AC Humko site.

The revised plans, which may be viewed at our website at harrisonwest.org, include an enlarged park along the river and the incorporation of the Outlands property into the development.

Mark, Rob and a City representative presented a plan for two tax increment financing (TIFs) related to the Humko site. The TIFs will generate funds over a 30-year period to help pay for infrastructure improvements to the site and for improvements and land acquisition for the new riverside park and the neighborhood.

(Continued on Page 4)

*Please Join Us for the 6th
Annual Harrison West Society
Holiday Potluck*

*Wednesday, December 17, 6:30 P.M.
(in lieu of regular HWS meeting)
at The Third Place, 448 W. Third Avenue*

*the Harrison West Society will provide
turkey, ham, bread and soft drinks*

*Please bring your favorite side dish,
hot or cold hors d'oeuvres, salad or dessert.*

BYOB

Thanks to Janelle Nagy and her Party Team: John Nagy, Tim Bledsoe, Rob Harris, and Scott Robinson. They have worked hard to make this party a wonderful neighborhood event!

Lighten Up! Harrison West Holiday Lights Contest Judging December 14



Make your house a winner in the 7th Annual Holiday Lights Contest. Judging will be December 14. We've changed the categories to more clearly reflect lighting and decorating styles in the neighborhood.

The Traditional Category is now **Holiday Spirit**, so almost anything goes. Contemporary has been changed to **Best Decorated Windows**. **Most Exuberant** still means major wattage. (Will that house on Second win again?!)

Winners will be announced at the Holiday Potluck, December 17, 6:30 pm, The Third Place at 448 West Third Avenue. There may even be prizes.

Holiday Party Wednesday, December 17

It's the Holiday Potluck, so bring a covered dish and your festivity and join your friends and neighbors at 6:30 for holiday Good Eats at The Third Place.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be January 21 at the First Brethren Church.

NEXT MEETING

The Harrison West Society will meet
Wednesday,
December 17
at 6:30 PM
Third Place,
448 West Third

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HARRISON WEST SOCIETY MINUTES November 19, 2003

Submitted by Veda Gilp, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM with a quorum of voting members present; President Dave Butler presiding.

Routine Business

Minutes Rick Kobee motioned to approve the minutes of the last meeting; Passed.

Old Business and Committee Reports:

Friends of Goodale Park Dave Butler announced that Doug Swartz has volunteered to be the HWS representative on the Board of the Friends of Goodale Park. Thanks, Doug.

Humko Redevelopment Mark Wagenbrenner and Rob Harris presented the revised site plans for the redevelopment of the AC Humko site and a plan for two Tax Incremental Financings (TIF). Mary Funk motioned and amended that the HWS support both the Project TIF and the Neighborhood TIF and authorizes the HWS officers, or a P&D Committee designee, to write a letter of support for the TIFs and to advocate at City Counsel meetings or otherwise in support of the TIFs, such support being contingent upon the spirit and intent of the revised plan as presented at the meeting (Plan G); Passed.

Commission Committee Rob Harris made a presentation on what an Area Commission is and how it would be beneficial to form one for the HWS. Discussion on moving forward on this after the holidays.

Holiday Party The Holiday Party is

a go for Wednesday Dec. 17th, 2003 at 6:30 at The Third Place. Janelle Nagy motioned to spend up to \$500 for the Party; Passed. Many thanks to Janelle Nagy for Chairing the Holiday Party Committee and thanks to all her hard workers, too.

Planning and Development The next P&D meeting will be December 1 at 7 PM at Cafe Corner.

New Business & Announcements:

Tom Robinson announced that the SNNF is having a holiday party at Havana from 5:30 - 8:00 on December 4, 2003. Cost is \$10.

Mary Funk motioned to send a card to Officer Smith and his wife, Missy, on the birth of their daughter Kaitlin; Passed.

Pastor Morris announced the church's upcoming Spanish/English classes.

Mary Funk motioned to spend up to \$200 on food for the police for the OSU/Michigan game; Passed.

HWS Meeting Date The next meeting will be the Holiday Potluck on Wednesday, December 17 at 6:30 PM. at the Third Place, 448 West Third Avenue. The regular business meeting will be January 21, 2004.

Adjourned at 9:00 PM.



HARRISON WEST NEWS

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

www.harrisonwest.org

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Harrison West Society meets 3rd

Wednesday of each month, 7:30 PM.

**Reason #87 to join the
Harrison West Society**

You'll have something exciting to
do every third Wednesday.

“Happy Holidays! Give Me Your Car, CD Player, and Money”

by Officer Steve Smith, CPD

In November in Harrison West, there were a six car thefts, six thefts from cars and trucks, one robbery, one larceny, and six malicious destructions.

Remember it is the Holiday season. Secure your valuables, don't carry a lot of cash or credit cards with you, and be observant to your surroundings as you are out and about. Hope everyone has a great holiday season.



Harrison West Society Membership

A Thoughtful Gift for the Harrison West Neighbor Who Has Everything

Please complete this form and mail it, along with your appropriate contribution to Harrison West Society, P.O. Box 163442, Columbus, OH 43216. Membership dues are paid each calendar year.

NAME _____

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RENEWAL NEW MEMBERSHIP

Individual \$10 Senior (60 and over) \$5 Sustaining \$25

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Referred by: _____

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John/Betty Jordan, Assistants

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10:20 Refreshment Gathering
10:40 Morning Worship
6:00 PM Evening Worship
Monday 6:30 PM Bible Study
Wednesday 6:30 PM Boys Brigade (7-18)
6:30 PM Gym (3rd. Wed.)
7:30 PM Harrison West Meeting
Thursday 6:00 PM Little Women (5-18)
Friday 7:00 PM Open Prayer

**Our church is open to all.
Please come.**

Humko Redevelopment News Better and Better for Harrison West

(Continued from Page 1)

A new Harrison West Park Committee/Steering Committee is being formed to work with the City and the developer on the new park and to advise on how the TIF funds will be spent.

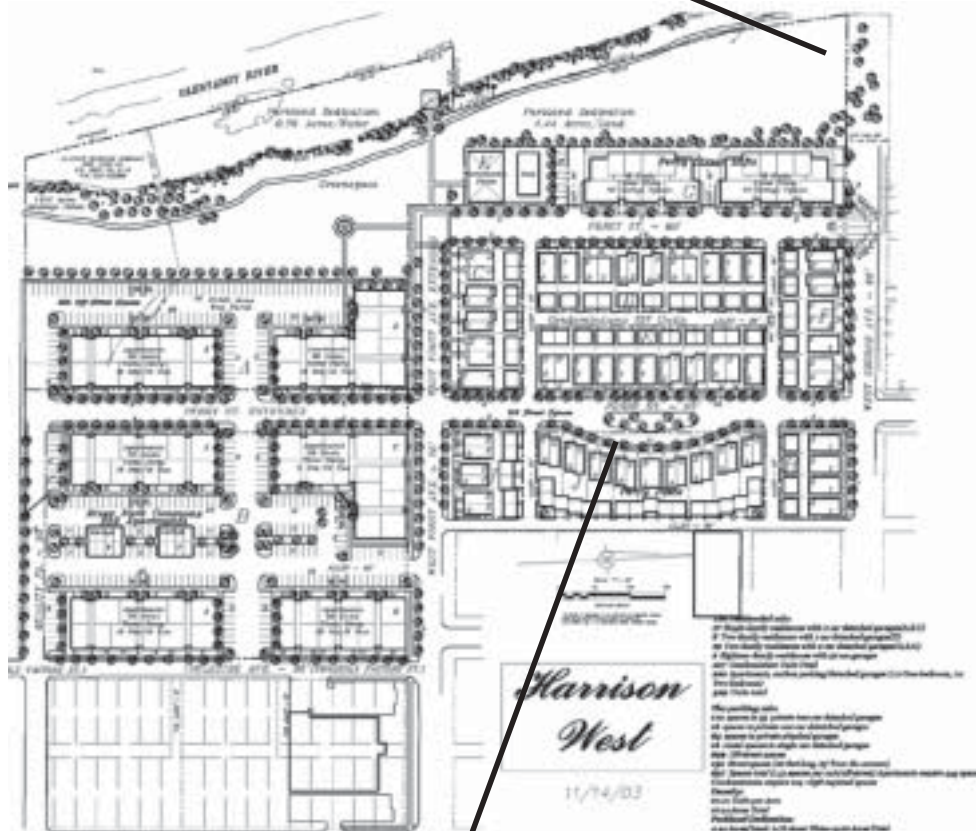
At November's meeting, the Harrison West Society voted to support the TIFs and the revised plan as presented by Rob and Mark.

Neighborhood support of the TIFs is critical to encourage City Counsel to pass them.

This opportunity is a watershed event for Harrison West, with the potential to bring improvements and developments to replace the Humko facility and throughout the remainder of Harrison West. Stay tuned to the newsletter and during the monthly meetings for continuing updates on this project.

THE NEW HUMKO PLANS

The Compton property is proposed to become a part of an expanded riverfront park.



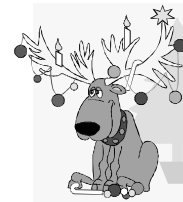
The Outlands property and parking lot will be folded into the development, making room for 8 doubles and a single family house, PLUS a treed ellipse on Perry Street.

Name the New Park

Now that it's for sure that Harrison West will have a new 5.2 acre park fronting the Olentangy River, it's time to name the park.

Following are preliminary suggestions. We'll vote on our favorite at the Holiday Potluck on December 17 at 6:30.

- River View Park
- Factory Park
- Olentangy Rapids Park
- Olentangy Island Park
- Olentangy Commons Park
- Olentangy Highlands Park
- Harrison Island Park
- Forge Park
- Island Park
- Riverscape Park
- Riverbend Park
- Riverfront Park



Reason #1 to Join the Harrison West Society

With the upcoming Neighborhood TIF, the new development on the former Humko factory, the development of the rundown Outlands property and the Compton property, and the new 5.7 acre park along the Olentangy River, the Harrison West Society is making major decisions on big changes in the neighborhood. The Society will be controlling the TIF funds disbursement for capital improvements for the next 30 years, too. As a Society member you will have a voice in those decisions.

Area Commission Would Be A Strong Voice for Our Neighborhood

by Rob Harris, Architect

Last month we ran an article by Society member Rob Harris on why an Area Commission would be good for Harrison West. So many members had further questions that the Editor decided to run the rest of Rob's material, which describes in detail what an Area Commission does. Please note, an Area Commission is NEITHER an Historic nor a Neighborhood Commission such as exist in Victorian or German Village.

If you need the introductory material, please refer to the November News on harrisonwest.org.

The issue of the Area Commission will be discussed at the January meeting with a presentation from the City.

The functions and duties of an Area Commission are advisory and do not invalidate actions of city council. In general an area commission shall:

- (1) Create plans and policies, which will serve as guidelines for future development of the area;
- (2) Bring the problems and needs of the area to the attention of appropriate government agencies or residents; and
- (3) Recommend solutions or legislation.

B. Aid and promote communications within the commission area and between it and the rest of the city by means of:

- (1) Regular and special meetings of the commission which are open to the public;
- (2) Public hearings on problems, issues, and proposals affecting the area;
- (3) Public forums and surveys to provide an opportunity for area residents, businesses, and organiza-

tions to state their problems and concerns;

(4) Soliciting active cooperation of all segments of the area and city, including organizations, institutions, and government;

(5) Initiating proposals and supporting those introduced by individual citizens or area organizations, which will enhance the quality of life enjoyed by area residents and preserve the unique residential and commercial mix of the area; and

(6) Promoting and encouraging businesses whose functions, methods of operation, architectural appearance, and locations are consistent with the character and requirements of the area.

C. Initiate, review and recommend criteria and programs for the preservation, development, and enhancement of the commission area, including, but not limited to, parks, recreational areas, sidewalks, streets and traffic, by means of:

- (1) Reviewing the proposed capital improvements budget and proposing new items and changes relating to the area;
- (2) Making recommendations for restoration and preservation of the historical elements within the area; and
- (3) Receiving and reviewing for recommendation, prior to adoption by governmental bodies, any new or revised comprehensive plan affecting the area.

D. Recommend priorities for and review government services and operation of the various government departments in the commission area by means of:

- (1) Requesting and receiving from departments or agencies peri-

odic reports concerning governmental services or practices in the area;

(2) Meeting with administrative heads of any department or agency, or any of their subordinates, to obtain additional information deemed necessary for the commission to fulfill its functions;

(3) Requesting and receiving from departments or agencies, prior to implementation, full reports on any proposed changes in service or practice in the area, and recommending approval or disapproval of the proposed changes;

(4) Reviewing and evaluating pending legislation substantially affecting the area prior to its consideration by council; and

(5) Regularly receiving for review, comment and recommendation from the development regulation division copies of applications and notices of all public hearings related to rezoning, special permits, variances, demolitions, and zoning appeals regarding property located wholly or partially within the area.

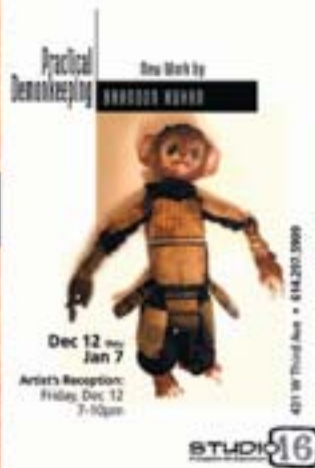
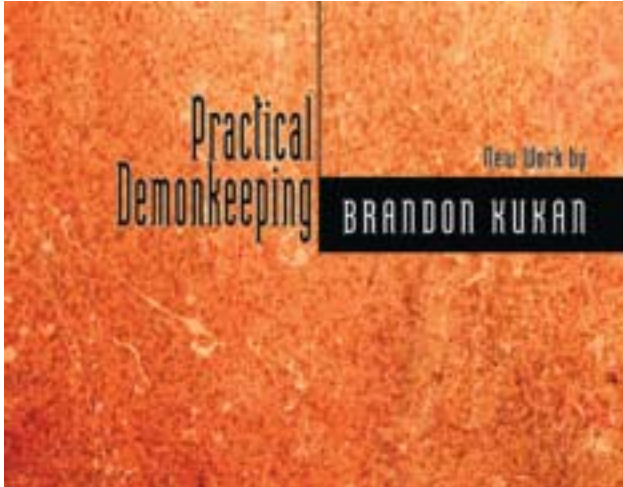
E. Recommend persons from the commission area for nomination to membership on city boards and commissions, which make decisions or recommendations affecting the commission area. (Ord. 2654-96 § 1 (part).)

The following is copied from the City of Columbus Title 31 Planning and Platting Code, Section 3109.14:

Each applicant for a rezoning, special permit, variance, zoning appeal, or demolition permit shall be notified of the existence of an area commission with advisory jurisdiction concerning the application and shall be advised to contact such commission.

Studio 19 Showing Extra-Edgy Work in December

The new show at the neighborhood Studio 19 art gallery is “Practical Demonkeeping: New Work” by Brandon Kukan. The show runs from December 12 through January 7. Stop by to view the kind of art you probably won’t find on your grandparent’s walls.



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Dan Fiske



Sharon Young

Eadie Gourmet Eats Out at Basi Italia

(Continued from Page 8)

The bread is a hard, crusty loaf, rather coarse, and delicious. Good for sopping up the last drop of sauce. It comes with three spreads: garlic butter; and almost fruity mix of stewed onions, carrots, olives, peppers, caper grapes, and raisins; and a white bean puree with lemon zest. You won't miss plain butter at

all.

The friend who was playing Eadie Gourmet with me cannot eat fish, so we were unable to sample the roasted clams, the tuna carpaccio, or the evening's special of swordfish.

But we dined very well on gnocchi all forno and eggplant parmesan.

Gnocchi, which can be heavy as a holiday fruitcake, as Basi presents them are delicate, almost ethereal, and complement the earthiness of the wild mushroom bechamel sauce. Yin and Yang on a plate.

The eggplant parmesan was another delicious surprise. The robust slices were coated with cornflour (cornmeal to the rest of us) and cooked so quickly and well that one could feel and taste the cornflour. The slices were firm and meaty, and missing entirely the soggy bitterness so often found in cooked eggplant. The sauce brought a sunny mix of tang and sweet tomato to the dish.

Unfortunately, my guest cannot eat chocolate (!), either, so we passed on the lovely chocolate

mousse presented on the dessert tray. The lemon cake with ricotta cheese and a lemon pannacotta rounded off our meal very well. The lemon cake was muffin-textured and sweet-tart.

The pannacotta, that lovely Italian milk custard, snuggled with a trio of strawberries macerated in red wine, cinnamon, and sugar under a cloud of real whipped cream.

With the meal we drank a bottle of Banfi Principessa Gavia, at \$26 a reasonable choice.

Basi is not a restaurant for children, as the service is continental in its timing. Prices are more than reasonable, especially considering the quality of the food, the preparation, and the inspired recipes. Parking is impossible, and since it's just a block and a half east of the Big Bear, might as well walk.

I promised our waiter, Rick, that I would mention him. You'll know him -- he's the one with the hair explosion. Don't be put off. He's eaten everything and can talk knowledgeably about it. He's a good waiter, too.

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Eadie Gourmet Eats Out at Basi Italia

by Veda Gilp

Everything you've been hearing about the new Basi Italia is true: it's hard to find, there's no parking and little seating, reservations are hard to get, and the food is fantastic.

However, if you are willing to eat early on a weeknight, you just might be able to experience this bit of food heaven before the next millennium (that's 294-7383 and you'll probably need directions).

Everything I tasted was good. In fact, I don't think you could go wrong on anything on the menu. What you look for here, though, is the singular Basi approach to food. Chef/owners John Dornback and Trish Gentile are exploring the sometimes surprising relationships of tastes.

Consider their grilled endive salad, for instance. Endive is bitter lettuce. Who would grill it? Chef Dornback would, and then fill it with almost melting gorgonzola cheese sprinkled with pistachios, and drizzle it with a balsamic vinegar reduction -- burned lettuce topped with pungent cheese and vinegar. Sounds tasty, doesn't it?

It works. It tastes -- well, it wakes up your taste! Somehow the bitter lettuce is mellowed by the grilling, and further mellowed and sweetened by the gorgonzola and pistachios. The final perfection is the anointing with the slightly thick, slightly sweet vinegar. If Dornback thought this one up all by himself, he's an inspiration to all cooks everywhere.

(Continued on Page 7)

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Join the HWS
Area Commission
Name the New Park
Practical Demonkeeping

harrisonwest.org

HARRISON WEST NEWS

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