

HARRISON WEST NEWS

A Neighborhood on the National Register of Historic Places



A Great Time to Join HWS

The best way to get involved and support your neighborhood is to join the Harrison West Society. And now, any two people in the same household can join for just \$15! That, of course, is a \$5 savings from the normal rate of \$10 per person.

The importance of a strong and diverse neighborhood Society cannot be stressed enough. The City of Columbus offers better treatment to neighborhoods that have large Societies.

After all, we do live in a democracy. So make sure your voice is heard!

HWS is committed to seeing the Society grow one member at a time. So whether you join alone or with your roommate, please take a moment to fill in the membership card on Page 3.

Harrison West Needs a Commission

Final debate and vote at Harrison West Society meeting February 16

Harrison West is at a turning point. The next ten years will be critical to the continued prospering of Harrison West. New development and infill housing are coming at nearly unprecedented rates. These days, houses turn over about every 5 years. An entire generation of old-time residents is ready to retire -- and sell their houses for rehabbing.

The neighborhood needs a Commission so this growth and redevelopment can be controlled in the best interests of the whole neighborhood.

Yes, in the past, the Harrison West Society often was successful in protecting

“The next ten years will be critical to the continued prospering of Harrison West.”

the neighborhood, fighting to protect the neighborhood fabric through zoning appeals, lawsuits, and letter writing. These avenues are no longer enough, as recent setbacks before the Board of Zoning Appeals have shown.

German Village has a Commission. Merion Village, its neighbor just to the south, didn't get a Commission when German Village did. German Village property values are some of the highest in the City. Merion Village still is struggling with its slumlords.

See COMMISSION PAGE 3



February 16

The Harrison West Society will meet at 7:30PM at the First Brethern Church, Third & Oregon

Meeting agenda

The Harrison West Society will be discussing the key issue of forming a Commission for the Harrison West neighborhood. Society members have indicated that they will “make a motion” to create a committee that will organize a signature drive.

The City of Columbus requires 500 signatures from the residents and business owners in the neighborhood. Currently, roughly 2000 people reside in Harrison West.



Join the Harrison West Society today!
Commission meeting
Police Blotter
Society Fund Raiser
Side-By-Side Art Park

POLICE BLOTTER

January 9

A 3rd Avenue establishment reported that two unknown males cut telephone wires and gained entry to the premises by forcing open a door. Once inside the suspects pried open the lottery ticket machine, cash register, jukebox, pool table, and golf game.

The office door was also opened. 1,200 scratch-off lottery tickets and \$7000 in cash was removed from the premises.

The establishment provided the police a videotape of the burglary. An evidence technician processed the crime scene and a few fingerprints were recovered.

January 11

On 2nd Avenue, victim reports unknown suspect(s) took a spare tire and rim valued at \$300 from the back of the vehicle.

January 12

A 3rd Avenue resident filed a report for criminal menacing. The victim, a security guard for a used car dealership, reported that another employee of the same car dealership threatened to run him over with a tow truck. The

suspect works as a repo man for the dealership was attempting to remove the victim's vehicle from the premise. The suspect reportedly caused a disturbance by acting in a disorderly manner.

No arrests were made.

January 14

A Thurber Drive resident reported that unknown suspects gained entry to his vehicle by smashing the side door window. Suspects left with victim's car stereo unit.

January 17

A Michigan Avenue business reported that unknown person(s) broke the driver's side door lock mechanism of the victim's van. The suspect absconded with tool boxes and tools valued at \$500.

January 18

A Harrison Avenue resident reported mail being stolen from the mailbox.

January 18

A Thurber Drive resident reported that unknown person attempted to steal his van by punching out the ignition.

See POLICE BLOTTER PAGE 3

David J. Butler

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HARRISON WEST NEWS

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

www.harrisonwest.org
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Harrison West Society meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 7:30 PM.

COMMISSION *cont'd*

Victorian Village has a Commission. Harrison West, its neighbor just to the west, didn't get a Commission when Victorian Village did. Victorian Village property values are some of the highest in the City. Harrison West still is struggling with developers and slumlords.

Harrison West could be as strong as Victorian Village and German Village are if we had a Commission. It's time for us to take control of our neighborhood's future. It's time for a Commission.

The final discussion and vote on Commission status will take place at the Harrison West February meeting, February 16, 7:30 PM at the First Brethren Church, corner of Third and Oregon.

POLICE BLOTTER *cont'd*

January 30

Several taxicabs were reportedly pelted with snowballs on the corner of 3rd and Pennsylvania Ave.

The Harrison West Police Blotter is comprised of public reports to the Columbus City Police, Cruiser District 1.



Harrison West Society Membership

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(S) _____

PHONE _____ Email _____

ADDRESS _____

RENEWAL NEW MEMBERSHIP

Individual \$10 Household \$15 (2 persons) Senior \$5 (60 and over)

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www.sfacolumbus.org

Kaufmann's Spring Fling, flinging money at Harrison West

On Tuesday, April 5, from 6 to 10 PM, Kaufmann's at Tuttle Crossing is sponsoring an evening benefit called the Spring Fling. As part of the celebration, Kaufmann's is giving the Harrison West Society an opportunity to raise thousands of dollars for our treasury.

Here's how it works:

We are one of several non-profit organizations participating in the sale of \$10 admission tickets to Kaufmann's Spring Fling. We retain all proceeds from the ticket sales. With your support, we can also be one of the lucky organizations receiving one of six bonus checks Kaufmann's is donating for: the highest ticket sales (#1-\$2,000, #2-\$1,500, #3-\$1,000) and the highest attendance (#1-\$2,000, #2-\$1,500, #3-\$1,000). The more tickets we sell, the more money we raise!!

Everyone who buys a ticket will enjoy...

- 25% off almost everything in the store
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- Fashion events, entertainment, product demos, refreshments, wine & more

Special guest appearances including local TV anchors.

To get your tickets to this fun event, just complete the order blank below and mail with your check to: Harrison West Society, P. O. Box 163442, Columbus, Ohio 43216

Name: _____


Phone: _____

Address: _____

Number of tickets ordered (\$10 each): _____ Amount enclosed \$: _____

Please make check payable to: Harrison West Society

Thank you for participating and for contributing to Harrison West! We're sure you'll enjoy this very special event. See you there!




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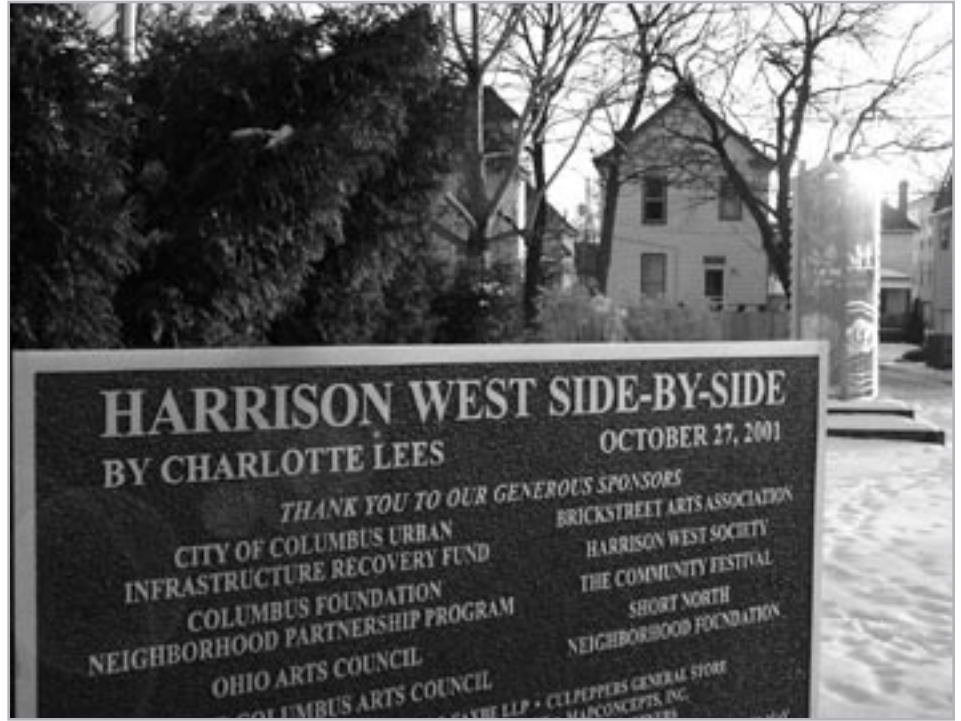
Harrison Park

HWS Officially Names Side-by-Side Art Park

The 3rd Avenue Bridge park is now officially known as the Side-By-Side Park. The decision was made after a unanimous vote by the Harrison West Society on January 19th.

The newly named Side-by-Side art park is a great place to sit, relax and view art. There you will find Side-By-Side, the only public art in Harrison West. In 1997, the Brickstreets Arts organization began the drive to fund and create Side-By-Side.

The park was created through a \$200,000 grant from the Urban Infrastructure Recovery fund.



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MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM with a quorum of voting members present (21); President Dave Butler presiding.

Routine Business

Minutes Veda Gilp motioned to approve the minutes of the last meeting; Passed.

Treasurer's Report Treasurer Tom Maxwell reported a balance of \$4,554.01, with current bills paid. Rob Harris asked about the money allocated for legal fees incurred for the Victorian Village TIF. Dave Butler explained that no fees were incurred because the TIF had been killed.

Old Business and Committee Reports:

Membership Drive Chair Tony Celebrezze brought labels, envelopes, and letters, and everyone at the meeting helped assemble the membership mailing. Celebrezze determined that the Society has 250 people on the membership list.

Harrison Park Update Rob Harris reported most of the model homes to be built are already sold. The traffic island on Perry has been approved.

Third Avenue Bridge Park Update Bob Mangia reported that bidding on park improvements to be paid for with UIRF money will begin in February, plans to be finished by March, and building to begin in May. He reported that the City has indicated it would prefer a name change from Third Avenue Bridge Park. After discussion, Pastor Richard Morris motioned to change the name to Side by Side Park; Passed.

Traffic Update Dave Butler reported that as a result of 7 years of efforts by the Traffic Committee, the City is implementing the traffic calming called for in the Memorandum of Agreement. This will result in gateways at 3rd Avenue Bridge, the 5th Avenue Bridge, and the Michigan Connector. The Society has spent the \$2,500 Wagenbrenner Realty allocated for design for these features. He reported that he and Veda Gilp had negotiated with POD, formerly Schmidt Land Design, to continue oversight of the gateway features for \$750. The next HWS President would be the contact person for POD. Pastor Richard Morris moved to allocate \$750 for POD to oversee the gateway construction and that the HWS officers would be in charge; Passed.

CPO Neighborhood Advisory Committee Dave Butler reported that the CPO had asked for volunteers to be on the Advisory Committee with its residents. He will continue to seek volunteers.

Planning and Development Dave Butler reported that the revisions of the Riverfront Vision Plan for the Harrison West Reach are in the final stages. The next meeting will be February 7, at 6 PM at the First Brethren Church.

New Business & Announcements:

HWS Meeting Date The next meeting will be February 16, 7:30 PM at the First Brethren Church.

Announcements Mary Funk reported that Kaufmans' Department store has invited Harrison West to be involved in the April 5 Spring Fling. Harrison West would sell \$10 tickets, keeping all proceeds. Veda Gilp volunteered to attend the January 25 meeting to get more information. Chris Ruder motioned that the February meeting be devoted to final discussion and selection of Commission status for Harrison West; Passed. Pastor Richard Morris motioned to adjourn; Passed. Adjourned at 8:45.
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A Silent Saturday

By Mike Altvater

Snow hit Columbus last Saturday night. From late afternoon to the late evening over six inches of a heavy flakes fell on our streets, sidewalks and homes. As traffic slowed to a steady crawl, many people in the area reconsidered and revised their plans for the evening.

I had planned on heading downtown to go drinking with my pals. I called several different taxicab dispatchers only to hear the same thing from each, "We'll be there as soon as we can." Anyone who has ever dealt with cab companies in Columbus knows that we wouldn't be seeing the inside of a taxi anytime soon.

With that, the decision was made for us. We'd be staying local. After a few cocktails, we pulled on our boots for a snowy walk to Zeno's on 3rd and Pennsylvania.

As we trudged along I was struck by the eerie quiet surrounding me. The typical dull roar of hurried traffic along 315 was gone. The streets were no longer covered with puddles from those incessant rainfalls and snowmelts. Instead, a six-inch pad of snow muted the sound of rubber tires on wet pavement. The heavy blanket even absorbed engine noise.

Opening the door to Zeno's, my snowglobe world was immediately behind me. The silent snowfall was overtaken by warm music and friendly voices. Quite obviously, we were not the only people to resist the allure of downtown Columbus that night. Dozens of (presumably) Harrison West residents and friends crowded the bar and open floors of Zeno's.

And what a diverse crowd it

was! The youngest person could have been 21 years old and the oldest could have been 70. One moment the jukebox was playing Britney Spears and the next it was Stevie Nicks. Some men had neatly parted hair and glasses, while others had shaved heads and facial piercings. Some women wore long skirts, blouses and blazers; others wore t-shirts and blue jeans.

Amid this diversity everyone shared some stark similarities. For one, we all cared enough about each other and socializing to make it out to a communal meeting place. Secondly, living in a small community with centrally located attractions, we were able to make a relatively painless journey. And, most importantly, the people at Zeno's that night were able to see all of these things that we have in common rather than all of our obvious differences. From one corner of the bar to another I saw only smiling faces and heard only heartfelt laughter.

Saturday night's snowfall affected most people in the region. But how many were affected in such a positive way? Our neighborhood is both small and diverse. Sometimes all we need to get everyone together is a gentle nudge from nature.

That Saturday didn't start the way I thought it would, but it ended better than I expected. During my stroll home from the bar, I was just lucid enough to realize how lucky I am to live in a neighborhood like Harrison West.

And all it took was a silent snowfall on a Saturday night.
Email: buckeyestate@gmail.com

Eadie Gourmet Eats Out At Northstar Cafe and Tommy's Diner

By Veda Gilp

Last weekend two breakfasts brought home the range of dining choices we enjoy in Columbus.

On Saturday, Maddy Weisz, BrickStreets Arts maven and neighborhood conscience, and I breakfasted at the new and trendy Northstar in the Short North. And on Sunday, Donna Richie, a Victorian Village icon who knows simply everyone, and I ate comfort breakfasts at Tommy's Diner on West Broad. Except that both places were packed and both places were serving the morning meal, you'd be hard put to find any similarities.

The Northstar is new urban chic, at the corner of 2nd and High. Look for the floor to ceiling windows.

If you're going for breakfast, better get there before 10 am, because that's when it fills up.

The Northstar prides itself on being organic; even the coffee is organic. Ingredients are best quality, fresh, and prepared with care.

Breakfast for Maddy was one of those huge sweet muffins,

stuffed with pecans, raisons, carrot, cinnamon, and sprinkled with coarse sugar. Excellent, especially with a glass of milk to wash it down. Almost like eating carrot cake, but without the icing.

I had the mushroom frittata, an open-face omelet with shitake, portabellas, sweet onion, and Gruyere. It was good, and the earthy mushrooms helped somewhat to offset the pungency of that particular bit of Gruyere. I found that I was eating around the cheese. Perhaps another cheese would have made the combination work better.

With it came roasted potatoes, and a great biscuit. Remember to ask for butter and jam for your biscuit, or you won't get any. The strawberry jam is as good as what I make from berries I pick myself, and my jam is very tasty.

Other breakfast specialties feature house-made granola, ricotta pancakes with Ohio maple syrup, or an egg sandwich. The menu offers hash made of organic turkey, sweet potato, and red pepper. The giant burrito of eggs, black beans,

red pepper, onions, and sweet potato seemed to go very well.

The lunch and dinner menu is more extensive. Many menu items can be prepared meat and dairy free. There are salads of organic lettuces, and Bowls of organic white or brown basmati rice and sauces. Sandwiches include the Northstar veggie burger, smoked turkey breast, meatloaf, and a sweet basil burrito you can have made with tofu. That last sounds so intriguing, I'm going back to try it. So sue me – I like tofu.

Since the flatbreads can be topped with pepperoni, red peppers, mushrooms, chicken, or aged provolone, I'm figuring they are the Northstar's version of pizza.

The Northstar is not for the very frugal, Breakfast was \$10, plus the \$5 I gave to the beggar at the door.

Tommy's Diner, 914 West Broad Street, is a 50's type place that hasn't changed appreciably since the 50s. The big Tommy's Diner sign outside surely has been there that long. Marilyn Monroe and 50s memorabilia cover the walls. The red vinyl booths are packed close

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GOURMET *cont'd*

together.

Breakfasts at Tommy's are what you would expect: eggs and home fries, hotcakes and eggs, French toast and eggs; buttermilk biscuits and sausage gravy; ham, bacon, steak, pork chops, corned beef hash, and chopped steak and eggs. Endless cups of coffee. Specials that include corned beef hash and eggs (very good hash, by the way); a big bowl of biscuits and home fries smothered with sausage gravy, topped with cheese; eggs benedict with the hollandaise sauce oozing over onto the home fries.

Donna had ham and eggs, and the eggs were perfectly cooked and the ham, though sliced thin, was still moist and flavorful.

I had the corned beef hash with eggs over easy and rye toast lightly toasted. The coffee wasn't organic, but it was good, and our waitress made a new pot of decaf just for us. Tommy is Greek, so in addition to the burgers, there are gyros. Daily specials almost always include a Greek dish. A few weeks ago, David Butler and I met Craig Copeland at Tommy's for some Greek salad and excellent pasticchio, and we cleaned our plates.

I enjoyed both experiences. I'll go back to both. Both are good examples of why you never need to look far for good food in Columbus.

Don't miss the Fiery Food Festival at North Market!
February 19th
Salsa competition, free samples, free fun for adults and kids both!

Harrison West News
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Join the Harrison West Society today!
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HARRISON WEST NEWS

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