

# HARRISON WEST NEWS

May 2005 16/05

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## \$1,000,000 Coming to Harrison West for Park

City Council just passed legislation that earmarks \$1,000,000 towards parks in Harrison West as part of the City's sale and development of Gowdy Field.

The first \$500,000 of the money will be cash (upon the sale of Gowdy Field) that will be kept by the City's Recreation and Parks Department.

Another \$500,000 will come from the planned Tax Increment Financing ("TIF") that will occur at the Gowdy Field site. The hope is to bond the \$500,000 in TIF money so that the funds will become fully available today rather than trickling in over time.

The priority for this money will be to acquire land for parks on the east side of the Olentangy River that will be much more accessible to HW and the surrounding neighborhood than Gowdy Field. The City Rec. and Parks Department will be working closely with the HWS in the future as opportunities present themselves to expand our neighborhood parks.

## Get Out the Vote for Harrison West Elections on May 18

May 18 is the date Harrison West Society members will choose new officers for the coming year.

Currently Mary Funk is running for President, Rob Harris is running for Vice President, Veda Gilp is running for Secretary, and Tom Maxwell is running for Treasurer.

While there have been no other nominations, there's still time to nominate someone else by calling the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Bob Mangia, at 291-3727, or you may make a floor nomination at the meeting on the 18th.

You must be a member in good standing to vote.

### Mary Funk for President

I'm a 30-year resident of Harrison West and have served as Vice President for more than five years. I am one of the cofounders of the Harrison West Society nearly 30 years ago. I have served as chairperson of the current Parks Committee for the new Harrison Park. I feel I have the leadership skills to serve as President of Harrison West. The next year will be an exciting time for our entire area.

### Rob Harris for Vice President

I have served our neighborhood by implementing our rezoning, served as cochair on the Harrison West Park Committee and have worked closely with the officers on numerous projects. In my role as project designer for Harrison Park, our team has been responsible for the transformation of a polluting factory into an extension of our great neighborhood.

### Tom Maxwell for Treasurer

I've been Treasurer for three years, I'm active on the P&D and Park Committees, and I'm a CPA.

### Veda Gilp for Secretary

I'm asking Society Members to reelect me as Secretary because I think I have done and will do a good job for the Society. I edit the *Harrison West News*, Chair the Conservation District Committee, and am an active member of the P&D and the Park Committees.

**Next Meeting:  
Wednesday,  
May 18  
Elections  
Perry Street  
Variance  
Gateways Update  
Summer Party  
Planning**

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be May 18 at the First Brethren Church. We'll be electing new officers, discussing development in the neighborhood, and much more. See you there.

**NEXT MEETING**

**The Harrison West Society will meet  
Wednesday,  
May 18 at 7:30 PM  
First Brethren Church, Third & Oregon**

**INSIDE**

**Neighborhood Plan  
Conservation District  
First & Thurber  
Perry Street  
Gateways  
Thai Taste**

# HARRISON WEST SOCIETY MINUTES April 20, 2005

Submitted by Veda Gilp, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM with a quorum of voting members present (41); President Dave Butler presiding.

### Routine Business

*Minutes* Bob Mangia motioned to approve the minutes of the last meeting; Passed.

*Treasurer's Report* Treasurer Tom Maxwell reported a balance of \$5,322, with current bills paid.

### Old Business and Committee Reports:

*Developments* Developers and their representatives presented their cases for Perry Street and First and Thurber.

*Perry Street remodel:* Attorney Connie Klema explained site plans and planned renovations. Now the Perry-facing units have a porch and a door. Density still is 5 units, with the second floor overhanging the lawn. Lack of self-parking is the major issue with the Society. Tim Bledsoe motioned to table the vote until we have a complete list of variances; Passed.

*First and Thurber Update* Developer Chip Santer presented revised plans. After much discussion, Pastor Morris motioned to approve the plans and "hope they live up to it", Rob Harris insisted on an amendment which would include a laundry list of street trees, etc. which will go on the application; 4 opposed, Passed. The concerns remain the lot coverage, lack of parking, building design, first floor parking garage, and the precedent which this established in the neighborhood for future development.

*Park Committee Update* Side by Side park building should begin June 1 and take 12 to 14 days, says Bob Mangia.

*Kaufmann's Spring Fling Fund Raiser* Veda Gilp reported that the Harrison West Society made more than \$1,100 on ticket sales.

### Gowdy Field Update and Vote

David Butler reported that at the Planning and Development meeting Alan McKnight (Rec and Parks Planner) promised to give Harrison West \$500,000 from the property and \$500,000 from the Gowdy Field TIF to acquire park land in Harrison West, calling it "land for land" if Harrison West would concede rights to a park on Gowdy Field. Pastor Richard Morris motioned to support this legislation so long as the wording specifies the proceeds are to acquire additional park land within Harrison West; Passed.

*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 May 2, 6 PM at the First Brethren Church.

### New Business & Announcements:

*Harrison West 30th Anniversary* Debbie Colvin suggested the Harrison West Society celebrate its 30th anniversary.

*Going Away Party* Scott Robinson invited all members to a going away party for Dave and Mandy Butler.

*Martha Walker Garden Club* Dave Butler announced that the Martha Walker Garden Club needs a contact person for Harrison West. Debbie Colvin was "volunteered" by Butler. Craig Copeland motioned to spend \$120 on park materials for Vermont Place; Passed.

*Side by Side Park* Bob Mangia reminded people that now that the flowers are up, he needs volunteers to transplant them to the beds across the street and at the west end of the bridge.

*HWS Meeting Date* The next meeting will be May 18, 7:30 PM at the First Brethren Church.

*Adjournment* Tim Bledsoe motioned to adjourn; Passed. Adjourned at 9:25 PM.

## HARRISON WEST NEWS

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

www.harrisonwest.org

P.O. Box 163442, Columbus, OH 43216

### Officers

#### PRESIDENT

David Butler 421-7157

dbutler4@columbus.rr.com

#### VICE PRESIDENT

Mary Funk 291-9545

MFunk50@aol.com

#### SECRETARY

Veda Gilp 299-6877

Editor@vedagilp.com

#### TREASURER

Tom Maxwell 297-7663

### Editorial and Advertising

#### Information:

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

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**Harrison West Society meets 3rd**

**Wednesday of each month, 7:30 PM.**

## Affordable Housing TIPS Line 722-SAFE

## FLOW Events

### Rain Gardens and Your Yard,

Tuesday, June 7, 7 - 8:30 PM,  
Northwood High Building, 2231 N.  
High St., Free. Vince Tremante,  
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Creek Consulting Inc., will discuss rain  
gardens and other bio-retention methods  
to manage storm water in our yards.  
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instructions for planting your own rain  
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### Rose Festival,

Saturday and Sunday, June 11 and 12,  
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needed.

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Columbus.

For more information, contact  
Kathy at the FLOW office: 267-3386 or  
flow2004@sbcglobal.net or  
www.olentangywatershed.org.

## Martha Walker Flowers Coming to Harrison West Again

Thanks to the Martha Walker  
Garden Club for plants around the  
neighborhood. Debbie Colvin is Chair  
of the Garden Committee.



## Harrison West Society Membership

Please complete this form and mail it, along with your appropriate contribution to  
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## Butler Moving On

by David Butler

This month will conclude my three year tenure as President of the Harrison West Society. What a three years it has been! I'd first like to express that it has truly been an honor to represent Harrison West, and I'd like to thank the other officers who have served with me and all of the many, many volunteers over the years who have helped with HWS events and projects. Without this great group of neighbors banding together, none of the progress we've made would have been possible.

I believe our community and the greater Columbus community are aware - more than ever - that Harrison West is a great neighborhood with a wonderful future. Soon we'll have a new riverfront park (not to mention another \$1 million that will be earmarked for future park development on the east side of the river), our own Community House, new gateway entry features, and a new development plan to guide development in Harrison West in the future.

The Conservation District we're working to establish in Harrison West will protect our investment in the neighborhood.

We've also made great strides in establishing a working relationship with Community Properties.

I have truly enjoyed my time as President. It has been quite rewarding to be involved in these projects and - even more rewarding - to have worked on these projects with such great neighbors.

## Gateway Features In the Works

Look for new gateway entry features as you enter Harrison West on 3rd and 5th Avenues from the west and the Michigan Avenue connector on the south end of our neighborhood. Harrison West has \$200,000 in UIRF funds available to devote to these gateways; this \$200,000 is in addition to the funds the City has already committed to these locations as part of the on-going Traffic Task Force work.

Harrison West has been working with Harrison Park designer POD Design Group to develop the gateway concepts and facilitate the discussion with the City.

At a recent meeting at Battelle, POD, the City, EP Ferris, and Battelle discussed implementing these new features. Stay tuned to the newsletter and our website for more information as the gateways continue to develop.



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Harrison Park

## Riverfront Vision Plan and Conservation District will Guide Future of HW

Harrison West is in the midst of major redevelopment brought on by the increased economic value of our neighborhood. The Harrison West Society is dealing with this and future development by revising the Riverfront Vision Plan to create a Neighborhood Plan and by creating a Conservation District for Harrison West. Our goal is to positively affect the new land usage so that it becomes an extension of our neighborhood, further increasing our quality of life.

Through the direction of our neighborhood plan, known as the Harrison West Reach of the

Riverfront Vision Plan, we will be able to guide the new development in a positive manner.

The Conservation District will provide an additional layer of protection for our neighborhood by serving as a strong, positive voice for quality development and by leveling the playing field for all developers and renovators. A Conservation District will preserve the positive aspects of our neighborhood, while guiding new development in a positive direction. Please come to our next Society meeting to voice your opinions and concerns for our future growth.



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## Perry Street Apartment Renovation Requests Tabled Until May; Santer Development Approved

The Harrison West Society considered two variance applications at its April meeting concerning two proposed developments in Harrison West. The first applicant was Connie Klema on behalf of New Victorians who was proposing to add a second story to four five-unit buildings on Perry Street near the intersection with Bradley Street. During the presentation, it was determined that the applicant did not know for sure what variances they would need to do the project and ultimately consideration was tabled until the May meeting.

During the discussion, some residents were in favor of the project while a number of others expressed serious reservations about supporting a parking variance at this location, which is surrounded in large part by single family residences where lack of on-street parking is an issue.

The second applicant was Chip Santer from Santer Communities who is proposing to develop a three-

story, twenty-four unit condominium building on the corner of 1st Ave. and Thurber. There was much discussion on this proposal with some residents raising concerns over the modern "look" of the building while others liked the "look." Issues related to parking, setbacks, landscaping, and height were also discussed, and it was significant that this location is in a "transitional" area of HW. Santer had redone his design several times prior to the meeting addressing concerns raised by the neighborhood - some of these redesign elements included less glass, increased setbacks, period appropriate doorway entry features, walk-up units on the ground level, all-brick exterior, double-hung windows, improved porch areas, and less "grating" around ground level parking facing Thurber. At the end of the discussion, a vote to support the variances passed with four voting in dissent.

## In Harrison West, People Add to the Bottom Line

The Harrison West Society is able to accomplish a great deal because of the effective and efficient use of available resources, most especially its members.

Total annual income is less than \$10,000, more than 75 percent of which is derived from advertising in the *Harrison West News*. Most of the remaining income is member dues.

Over 50% of the annual expenditures are for printing the *Harrison West News*. The next largest outlay is the \$1,882 for insurance – an unfortunate but necessary item in these litigious times. Other outlays are for the social events such as the summer and holiday parties, the marathon race, etc. The remaining expenditures are improvement projects such as the Side-by-Side Park and support for special projects of area police and fire divisions.

The main reason the Harrison West Society is able to do so much with so little is the untold hours contributed by its members. No dollar income is recorded to reflect the time and effort required for such activities as:

- publishing the *Harrison West News*,
- attending committee meetings,
- maintaining parks, flowerbeds and landscaping in the community,
- representing HWS at various governmental and organizational meetings
- planning, organizing and putting on community events such as the holiday party.

Finally, a significant resource that does not show up in operating income is the generous support that HWS receives from area businesses. Some examples are the food and beverages from Kroger Stores, deli trays from Spinelli's, cash from Fifth Third Bank, and gift certificates from area merchants.



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## Harrison West Conservation District Guidelines

**Just to give you a sense of the guidelines, here's what they say about height, scale, and massing:**

1. Foundation heights should be consistent with other late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century buildings in the neighborhood.
2. Single-family detached in-fill housing should be proportional to other 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century houses in terms of height and width.
3. With redevelopment of two or more lots for duplexes or apartment development, street-facing facades of new buildings should be broken up with porches and stoops that are consistent with the dimensions of historic buildings in Harrison West.
4. Apartment buildings shall have porches with an outside entrance from the street for every 50 to 75 feet of street frontage. Porches should be proportional to 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century housing.
5. The height of new apartment buildings shall be limited by the underlying zone. The front and side street yard provisions shall be the same as those for single-family detached construction.
6. The maximum building height should be 35 feet.
7. Buildings should have similar setbacks, bays, and covered entrances that complement the historic architecture on the street.

## Eadie Gourmet Eats Out at Thai Taste

*(Continued from Page 8)*

Maddy's mild Pad Thai was very good, but Mark's medium spicy was great! Something about that little bit of heat brought all the flavors to attention. This is the way Pad Thai should taste. We all agreed his dish was the best on the table.

Until we tried Lauren's Bangkok duck, which was outstanding! Slices of boneless roasted duck in a sweet Thai dark sauce were served over tender-crisp snow pea pods. Beautiful presentation, and excellent flavors. Even non-duck lovers would like this.

Molly and John indulged in the Golden Triangle - sauteed shrimp, chicken, beef, and mixed vegetables in yellow curry. Both went for mild, and it was very good. Complex yet subtle, and full of flavor.

My Pad Pong Kari, ordered very spicy, was great! Sauteed scallops, oh so rich and so very tender, with chiles, mushrooms,

onion, celery, water chestnuts, green peppers and yellow curry. I didn't plan it that way, but since it was more than a little spicy, it was too much for most of the folks at the table, so I wasn't called on to share. But those scallops -- I can still taste them.

For something entirely different, tried cold Larb Lanna, which is chopped chicken with Thai sauce, green and red onions, cilantro and rice powder. That will set your taste buds dancing.

Alas, there wasn't room for dessert.

The restaurant is pretty, if not richly appointed, the quality of the food is excellent, service is good -- even though our waiter wrote our orders on his hand, he got everything right and timely -- and there's plenty of parking in the center.

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# Eadie Gourmet Eats Out at Thai Taste

by Veda Gilp

If you've never tried Thai food, you should start with Thai Taste at 1178 Kenny Road in the Kenny Centre Mall. If you have tried Thai and not cared for it, Thai Taste may change your mind. It's that good.

Lauren Creighten, celebrating a new job; Molly Maccracken celebrating the end of a schoolteacher's week; Mark Hamsher, along to be a sobering influence; Maddy Weisz, back from pneumonia; John Cowin, along for laughs; and I pretty much ate our way through the basic Thai Taste menu and pronounced it all outstanding.

Molly and Lauren shared Mee Krob with all of us. Delish! It's fried noodles tossed in a sweet-sour sauce, and it's so rich and tasty that the whole table shared a small plate of it, and Molly and Lauren got their fill, too.

The spring rolls are excellent, like egg rolls elevated to a higher level of cuisine.

I ordered Tom Yum soup with shrimp. One of the things I especially like about Thai cooking is the way it combines chilies, lime, cilantro, basil, and coconut milk in such subtly different blends. Tom Yum soup shows off these flavors beautifully. My soup was aromatic, rich, full of shrimp, and back-of-the-throat spicy with the chilies.

Maddy and Mark ordered the Pad Thai, pan fried thin rice noodles with shrimp, chicken, egg, bean sprouts, green onion and ground peanuts.

(Continued on Page 7)

**ELECTIONS**  
Conservation District  
Guidelines  
Gowdy Update  
Gateway Projects  
First & Thurber  
Perry Street  
\$1,000,000 for HW

# HARRISON WEST NEWS

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