

HARRISON WEST NEWS

May 2006 17/5

A Neighborhood on the National Register of Historic Places

Since 1976

174 Members Strong

A two-year long campaign has paid off for residents of Harrison West.

The Membership Committee, chaired by Tony Celebrezze, produced a concentrated campaign of letters and postcards to everyone living and working in Harrison West. The result is 174 dues-paying members.

Membership in the Society empowers Harrison Westers to guide the direction the Harrison West Society takes the neighborhood. They will be able to vote on the exciting events happening in the neighborhood, including:

- how to spend the TIF income
- where to buy parkland with the \$1 million the City and Rec and Parks paid for relinquishing our interest in Gowdy Field
- Conservation District rules
- how to spend UIRF funds
- changing the constitution and bylaws

Obviously, membership in the Society has its rewards.

TIF is BIG Win-Win for Harrison West

Paying your property taxes won't get any easier, but you can be sure that any increases in your taxes for the next 30 years will stay right here in Harrison West to improve the neighborhood. That's the long and short of the Neighborhood Tax Increment Financing (TIF) which was put into place in February, 2004, on a basis of 770 properties. The first proceeds will be coming to the neighborhood in December, 2006.

You know your property taxes will increase over the next 30 years, partly because property taxes always do, but mostly because the property owners in Harrison West have worked so hard to make this a very valuable neighborhood.

Consider that just thirty years ago, Harrison West was in such decline, the City allowed Battelle to bulldoze whole streets of houses. We lost half of Vermont Place, several blocks of Fourth Avenue, and everything from Fifth south to Third from Perry to the river.

Consider the TIF our reward for working so hard to save our neighborhood.

The TIF doesn't raise your property taxes. In fact, the TIF doesn't affect your property taxes at all. What it does is bring any increase in your property taxes back to be spent in Harrison West rather than somewhere else in Franklin County.

And, yes, the Columbus Public Schools get their percentage from the increase before Harrison West gets ours. Got to keep the schools solvent.

The first TIF monies will be used to buy land for and to develop Harrison Park. After that, all the *increased* tax revenue generated because Harrison West is prospering will come back to Harrison West.

For neighborhood property owners, there is no downside to the TIF. None. Zero. It's totally a Win-Win for them and the neighborhood.



**Next Meeting:
Wednesday,
May 17**

**Elections
Lot Split
Block Party
Cafe Apropos Beer
Sales Permit**

NEXT MEETING

**The Harrison West Society will meet
Wednesday,
May 17 at 7:00 PM
First Brethren Church, Third & Oregon**

INSIDE

**Minutes
Elections Slate
TIF Explained
HWS Calendar
Bike Path Spruce Up
Garden Tour
Block Party
Thom's**

HARRISON WEST SOCIETY MINUTES

April 19, 2006

Submitted by Veda Gilp, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM with a quorum of voting members present (28); President Mary Funk presiding.

Routine Business

Minutes Amendments to the minutes: Jerry Colvin motioned that a letter be sent to the New Victorians about the condos on Perry; Pastor Richard Morris motioned to approve the minutes of the last meeting as amended; Passed.

Treasurer's Report Treasurer Tom Maxwell reported a balance of \$6,064, with current bills paid.

Old Business and Committee Reports:

President's Report President Mary Funk reported on the UIRF application.

Audit Report Chair Chris Ruder had no report.

Civic Relations Chair Pastor Richard Morris reported that the Council of Historic Neighborhoods will be discussing the proposed Conservation District guidelines.

Communications Committee Chair Stephanie Tresso reported that the brochure copy is almost completed. No actions have been taken to acknowledge or celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the Society.

Community Housing VP Harris reported that no more bingo prizes are needed for the Seniors.

Conservation Committee Chair Seth Rothy reported that the City is almost ready to distribute a revised version of Conservation District guidelines.

Elections Committee Chair Rick Kobee reported that Steven Cross has accepted the position as the representative from Harrison West to the Short North Neighborhood Foundation. Jim Sloan motioned to officially send Steven Cross to SNNF; Passed. Tim Bledsoe motioned to send a letter about Cross and his selection to SNNF; Passed.

Kobee reported that the Harrison West Executive Committee (HWEC) has elected to support Rob Harris for President, Mary Funk for Vice President, Barbara Kobee for Secretary, and Becky Borlaza for Treasurer. Barb Kobee requested that the *Harrison West News* publish a call for candidates for Society officers and that officer candidates should submit their intent to the Elections Committee and the *News*. Bob Mangia pointed out that HWEC support of a slate could send the message that no one else need even try to run for an elected position. Veda Gilp observed that if Mary Funk is elected this year, it will be her seventh term as either President or Vice President of the Society, and that it would strengthen the Society if others

began to fill those positions.

Membership Report Chair Tony Celebrezze presented a list of 174 members, reporting that new members sign up or old members renew every time he sends a membership letter. Wants to mail more letters.

Parks Committee Co-Chair Bob Mangia reported that the Garden Tour will be June 11, and will be combined with the City-wide Open Garden Tour, and that Co-Chair Debby Colvin needs all sign up for inclusion right now. He reported that while there is no electricity in the Side by Side park yet, it is coming soon. He reports that the City has not scheduled to put water in the Harrison West Park this year, as Mollie O'Donnell promised. Martha Walker Garden Club will provide plants and mulch for purchase for Harrison West again this year. Craig Copeland wants approximately \$500 spent on Vermont Place. Mangia believes there is no reason to put plants into Harrison West Park since there is no water there.

Planning and Development Chair Jacob Sukosd was not present.

Social Tim Bledsoe had no report.

Traffic Chair Craig Copeland reported that the 3rd Avenue traffic island will begin construction in the fall. President Mary Funk reported that Melinda Swan is to provide design and facilities for the tech corridor.

Crime Report Community Liaison Officer Steve Smith was not present.

New Business and Announcements

May Stuessy was present to discuss SNNF Pocket Parks.

A team was present to discuss the St. Joseph Montessori School at Hamlet and First. Friends of Goodale Park clean up will be April 22, and planting will be May 5.

Executive Committee will meet Monday, April 24, 2006, 6 PM.

The Harrison West Society will meet May 17, 2006 at 7 PM.

Adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Cafe Apropos Asks for Beer License

Cafe Apropos has applied for a D1 permit, which is a beer only for on premises consumption or in sealed containers for carry out. The Society will address this question at the May 17 meeting.

HARRISON WEST NEWS

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

www.harrisonwest.org

P.O. Box 163442, Columbus, OH 43216

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Harrison West Society meets 3rd Wednesday of each month, 7:00 PM.

The new Community
Housing phone is 298-6250.

New meeting time is 7 PM.

Trash Tips

Put yard waste at the curb, not in the dumpsters. Sweep sidewalks in front of your house. If spring cleaning or renovating -- call 311 for bulk trash pick up.

First Brethren Church

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10:40 Morning Worship

6:00 PM Evening Worship

Tuesday 6:30 PM Bible Study

Thursday 6:30 PM Youth Group

Friday 7:00 PM OPen Prayer

Our church is open to all.

Please come.



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 _____

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New meeting time is 7 PM.

Village Gate Animal Hospital & Pet Resort Opens in Grandview

Harrison West residents Dr. Kristin Caudy and Robert Caudy have opened a full-service, small animal veterinary hospital at 1158 W. 3rd Avenue (545-4260) that serves Harrison West, Grandview Heights, Upper Arlington, Victorian Village, Italian Village and the Short North. They aim to become a one-stop location for all a client's pet service needs.

If you have a pet, their state-of-the-art medical equipment, modern boarding facility, dog day care and grooming services may be just what you need.

FLOW'S May Events

When: Sat. May 20th from 1 PM -4 PM

What: Olentangy River Cleanup of Rush Run Creek

Where: We will be meeting at Walnut Grove Cemetery at 5561 Milton Avenue which is also accessible from 5481 N. High Street. Please wear comfortable clothing that can get dirty. We will provide trash bags and gloves along with refreshments. We will also be drawing the winner(s) of our FREE on-line Raffle (deadline is 5/15/06) to win a kayak or garden package. Please join us! Call Kathy at 267-3386 for more information.

When: Tuesday, May 23rd at 7 PM

What: Rain Barrel Workshop: We will meet in Clintonville to learn about storm water management and rain barrels. Kathy from FLOW and Stephen May from Flowing Gutters will be on hand to demonstrate a rain barrel installation. A 30% cost-share on rain barrels is available to participants who live in the watershed.

Where: Location to be disclosed ; register at 267-3386 or 262-8922 or flow2004@sbcglobal.net

Harrison West Society Elections Slate

The Executive Committee has endorsed the following slate to the membership for election:

- Rob Harris President
- Mary Funk Vice-President
- Barbara Kobee Secretary
- Becky Borlaza Treasurer

Nominations are eligible from the floor at the May meetings. You must be a member in good standing (paid up) since March, 2006 to vote.

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Harrison West Summer Block Party July 21

Get ready for the Summer Block Party July 21 on West Fourth Avenue at Pennsylvania from 6 to 10 PM. Everyone in Harrison West is invited. Bring a side dish to share and a chair to sit in and be prepared to have a great evening.

The Harrison West Society will be providing brats and burgers, sodas and water, utensils, music, fans, and a tent in case it rains.

Come on out rain or shine.



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What's Happening When in HW

Harrison West Society Meetings, 7 PM, First Brethren Church

May 17
June 21
July 19
August 16
September 20
October 18
November 15
December 20

Executive Committee Meets, 6 PM, First Brethren Church

May 22
June 26
July 31
August 28
September 25
October 30
November 27
December 18

Parties & Socials

River Cleanup w/Battelle June 3
Summer Block Party July 21
Marathon Party Oct. 15
Holiday Party Dec. 20

Should Society Expand Boundaries to Take in Olentangy River Road?

Craig Copeland has suggested further expanding the Society's boundaries to include both sides of Olentangy River Road from Fifth Avenue to Third Avenue.

Rationale for the expansion would be to control the development of the Tech Corridor the City

is trying to create on Olentangy River Road.

Some time ago, the Society, at the City's request, expanded its boundaries to include Gowdy Field on the west side of Olentangy River Road.

The question will be discussed at the May 17 Society meeting.



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New meeting
time is 7 PM.

Harrison West Garden Tour Celebrates HW 30th Anniversary

Parks Co-Chair Debby Colvin has put as much work into getting the garden tour off the ground as the gardeners will be putting into their gardens. But it's all paying off! Here are the gardens visitors will be seeing during the Tour Sunday, June 11 from 1 to 6 PM:

Side by Side Park on Third Avenue at the bridge; new perennial beds planted last fall. The park features the "Side by Side" sculpture by Charlotte Lees.

331 West Fourth Avenue Mark Holtzaple and Tim Prince; front plantings of mixed annuals, sun/shade plants including foxglove; also container plantings. At the rear is a shade garden featuring many mature hostas.

344 West Fourth Avenue Mark Hamsher; Back yard patio with shade garden including both annuals and perennials.

350 West Fourth Avenue Jim Slone and Jeff Stevens; low maintenance, tiered garden in front with holly, Japanese lilac, tulips and boxwood.

Japanese-inspired back yard highlighted by a Japanese maple and weeping pine in a raised bed of astilbe and other shade-loving plants.

358 West Fourth Avenue Rob Harris and Tim Bledsoe; compact, urban garden - mostly perennials - with decorative fountain.

480 West Fourth Avenue Doug Swartz and Scott Robinson; formal garden with container plantings in front. Back yard includes koi pond, and newly installed patio.

492 West Fourth Avenue Jerry and Debby Colvin; several varieties of ornamental trees, including a tricolor beech. Large variety of miniature to large hostas. Large back deck and arbor. Assorted perennials, including many labeled daylily varieties.

The Harrison West Garden Tour is part of the City of Columbus Recreation and Parks Open Garden Tour on that Sunday, which means free publicity for the Harrison West Tour.



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Harrison Park

Bike Path Spruce Up June 3

Battelle, Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed (FLOW) and Harrison West are sponsoring an Olentangy River Bike Path spruce-up and cleanup (Litter Pickup, Weeding, Mulching, and Planting) on June 3, from 9 am to noon, **rain or shine**. We will have a small cookout for the volunteers at noon.

Meet at the Battelle Warehouse parking lot by the Fifth Avenue Bridge (southeast corner of Fifth Avenue and the Olentangy River) at 9 am for sign-in and work assignments.

Please bring your own weeding, mulching and planting tools, and gloves. Call Adam Wagenbach from Battelle at 424-7927 for more information.

Eadie Gourmet Eats Out at Thom's

(Continued from Page 8)

We ate lots of the excellent bread -- rosemary focaccia and salt rye. Our server brought more without unseemly begging on our part.

Maddy's thick-cut pork chop with mashed potatoes was a disappointment. The chop lacked both flavor and juices. To add insult, her mashed potatoes were barely room temperature.

I had the herb crusted walleye with rice pilaf. Though John snickered politely at my plebeian fish, it was fresh and perfectly cooked. The herb crust kept the fish moist and tender.

Under it was a lovely buttery lemony beurre blanc sauce.

The rice pilaf would have been tasty, had it been warm. It was colder than Maddy's potatoes.

Our waitperson brought new servings of both starches, hot this time. And good. Good enough that John and Maddy finished her mashed potatoes and I forked up quite a bit of my pilaf, especially after I pushed it into the beurre blanc sauce. Yum!

I was impressed with the wine list. The prices for the fine selection are reasonable, with quite a few different wines by the glass.

Since Eadie Gourmet always eats dessert, Maddy and I shared the hot bourbon peach cobbler. Though we found no hint of bourbon and very little crust, the cobbler was good.

Thom's, 1470 Grandview Avenue, 487-5719, reservations accepted. Lunch and dinner. All around, not a bad place to eat, especially if you're feeling oldish and need a reminder that you're not really.

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Eadie Gourmet Eats Out at Thom's

by Veda Gilp

Maddy Weisz, John Cowin and I dined at Thom's on Grandview last week to see what the talk is all about. The food was pretty good and the prices were about the same as the Columbus Fish Market. We were shocked to discover that, with the exception of the servers, we were the youngest people there! (If you know us, you know we're not exactly spring chickens -- free ranging or not.)

It seems that between 5 and 7:30, the Clarmont crowd descends on Thom's like lobbyists on the opening session of Congress.

John pronounced it "very un-Short Northy; as if someone had announced an early bird special."

Maddy had the house salad with mesclun greens, goat cheese, cucumbers, kalamata olives, candied pecans and champagne vinaigrette. More greens than anything else: there were so few pecans we had to read the menu to discover what type of nuts were supposed to be included.

I ordered calamari with roasted pepper aioli. Excellent calamari, a hint of heat in the aioli, and a tasty marinara sauce.

John's grilled swordfish with broccoli rabe and roasted fingerling potatoes was an outstanding entree, except for the broccoli rabe. Who eats that? I know it's trendy, but none of us would touch it. The fish was perfect. John very generously shared his roasted potatoes, which were heavenly.

(Continued on Page 7)



HARRISON WEST NEWS



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Sunday: 9 AM and 11 AM

MASSES DURING THE WEEK
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