

Get answers to your burning trash questions . . .

Representatives from Rumpke Waste and the City of Columbus refuse division will be on hand at the next Harrison West Society meeting to answer your questions.

Next meeting: **Thursday, 13 October** • First Brethren Church • W. 3rd & Oregon

Harrison West News

OCTOBER 1994 • Volume 5, Number 10

Recycling...Here Comes Rumpke

by Craig Copeland
Harrison West News

Harrison West residents now have the opportunity to recycle through a \$3 per month curbside subscription service or for no charge at the Kroger store at 1350 North High Street and East 7th Avenue. The City of Columbus has a one year contract with Rumpke Waste to provide these recycling opportunities. Rumpke Waste representative Lauren Hoffman will be at Thursday's, 13 October, Harrison West Society meeting to respond to our questions and comments.

Items that will be accepted in the

curbside recycling program include: any color glass bottles and jars, aluminum and bi-metal beverage cans, steel food cans, aluminum foil, plastic containers that contained liquid (2-liter pop bottles, plastic jugs), gable top dairy/juice cartons, aseptic juice boxes, newspapers and magazines. At the Kroger drop-off site newspapers and magazines are excluded.

The 1 September 1994 start-up of the city-wide program has been overwhelming with 11,295 households signed up by the end of September, and the problems are being worked out, Hoffman said last week. Drivers could not find the addresses of some

subscribers and often the bins were not curbside in front the houses at 6 a.m. when the day's collection begins. Almost 650,000 pound of recyclables have been picked up in the City during the first month.

Pick-up day for recycling and 90-gallon containers in Harrison West is determined by the City's GOLD trash collection schedule, now Monday, that shifts forward with each holiday. For example, after Thanksgiving, 24 November, the collection day will be Tuesday. The 300-gallon bulk containers are not affected by the trash pick-up schedule. For additional information call 645-GOLD (645-4653) for the pick-up schedule, or 645-TRSH (645-8774) for a yearly schedule of trash collection and other questions regarding refuse in Columbus. Rumpke Waste can be reached at 421-0032.

Recycling has evolved from a '70s magical mystery tour of newly found waste awareness and programs, like those organized at the old Third Avenue Food Coop where Aniara is now located, to a nationwide demand-driven commodity business. Mountains of moldy newspapers that once piled up in recycling warehouses or landfills, of no value as recently as last year, now are in demand with prices paid by paper mills presently in the range of \$60 per ton, making a 40,000 pound semi-truck load worth \$1,200. The market for recycled paper has developed over 20 paper grades, the highest being worth 20 cents a pound.

PLEASE SEE **RECYCLING**
ON PAGE 6

REPRINTED, WITH PERMISSION, FROM THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Elections board rejects bar protest; liquor options to remain on ballot

by Mary Stephens, Dispatch Staff Reporter

Two local-option liquor questions that could put Zeno's bar and restaurant out of business will remain on the Nov. 8 ballot despite a protest by Zeno's owners.

Voters in Ward 33, Precinct I will decide whether sales of beer, wine and liquor for on-premises consumption should be allowed. If the vote is no, Zeno's at W. 3rd and Pennsylvania avenues and Roscoe's Tavern [Da' Cota's] at 453 W. 3rd will be dry.

The Franklin County Board of Elections disallowed the protest yesterday after hearing arguments by Zeno's attorney, Jennifer Brunner.

Brunner argued that the petitions to put the question on the ballot should have been invalidated because a list of liquor permit holders affected by the election was not attached to every page of the petitions circulated by Mary Funk.

PLEASE SEE **PROTEST REJECTED** ON PAGE 6

Minutes for 8 September 1994

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Craig Copeland at Columbus First Brethren Church, 473 West 3rd Avenue.

Discussions

- The Saturday, 1 October garage sale fundraiser was discussed. Plans for the neighborhood-wide yard sale were given the go ahead. Ten people had already signed up with Helen Dotson. Craig asked for a motion to spend \$60 on advertising, which was passed unanimously.

- A Columbus Foundation grant for street trees in the south half of Harrison West is undergoing its second stage of review. The Harrison West Society (HWS) could become a City Forestry Department demonstration project if a tree census is performed within Harrison West. It was suggested a Tree Committee be set up. Volunteers are needed.

- The topic of fundraising and dues was brought up. The purpose of raising money would be to help HWS become more active improving the neighborhood's quality of life and to be better prepared to react to unexpected neighborhood predicaments. Mary Funk recalled that the Society used to have \$2 dues 15 years ago. \$5 dues were discussed, or \$10 per household, with an exception being made in the case of financial hardship, which could be waived following application to the Membership Committee or Executive Board. Other levels of membership were also discussed. A motion was made, and

passed, to revise Article III of the HWS Constitution to include membership dues. [President's note: Proposed revisions to be in December Harrison West News with vote to be at the December meeting, the second Thursday, 8 December.]

- A motion was unanimously passed to incorporate the Society.

- A motion was unanimously passed to send separate letters to State Representatives Priscilla Mead and Mike Stinziano reflecting HWS disapproval of the proposed halfway house to be located in the Olentangy Inn.

- Carolyn Bonifazi was concerned about the apparent increase in heavy truck traffic on Michigan Avenue in the early morning hours. Craig suggested the formation of a committee to look into and deal with anticipated traffic problems from the 315/Spring-Sandusky freeway construction which will divert rush hour traffic onto 3rd and 5th Avenues.

- An announcement was made that Representative Priscilla Mead would attend the Candidates' Night held on 27 September. It was also mentioned that Amy Salerno and Mike Stinziano also would be stating their positions on the issues.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. to Suzanne Gallagher's grand opening of Nascent, her new art gallery at 431 West 3rd Avenue.

MINUTES TAKEN
BY DWIGHT K. PHELPS

Harrison West News

(HWN) is the official publication of Harrison West Society (HWS) and is published monthly.

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HWN publishing information OCTOBER DEADLINES

Editorial: 30 September 1994

Advertising: 3 October 1994

Please direct all inquiries, letters to the editor, advertising information, corrections, news releases and other germane information to:

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Halfway house for parolees planned

The nearby Olentangy Inn's future guests may be ex-convicts if plans to convert the motel go forward.

The Volunteers of America (VOA) branch organized in Mansfield received a permit to run a halfway house or "community residential treatment center" on 28 June 1994 from the Board of Zoning Adjustment for the purpose of reintegrating into society up to 85 nonviolent ex-offenders. The facility will include a number of sex offenders convicted on nonviolent crimes.

State Representative Mike Stinziano opposes this plan. "First, I think it is a serious mistake to house sex offenders within a stone's throw of the largest university in the nation. There has to be a better place for sex offenders than in such close proximity to so many young people. Secondly, I believe sex offenses are inherently violent. In my mind, sex offenders don't meet the standard of a nonviolent criminal," he said. Stinziano said helping ex-convicts to be productive members of society and keeping them out of jail is a worthy goal. Stinziano plans to share his concerns with the Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections.

The location by the Olentangy River on the western edge of Harrison West provides an attractive opportunity for clandestine alcohol and drug abuse in the seclusion of the steep river bank only a few yards from the motel. The banks are already heavily littered with beer and wine bottles and refuse from the homeless

encampments near the Third Avenue bridge.

The deal between the owners and the VOA is presently pending financing. The VOA would pay \$1.5 million for the 115-room, 38-year-old motel on a three acre parcel of land.

An additional \$225,000 would be required for upgrades. The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections pays around \$39 a day per person to the operators of facilities like this one, or \$1.2 million per year if operated at the 85 person capacity.

One City Recycling Program Achieves 99.5%

Some Call It Fertilizer

You have been having trouble getting around to starting that home compost pile? You know compost will grow healthy lush plants, but you think too much material to handle, too much work. Well, take some inspiration from the City of Columbus. This year the Sewage & Drainage Division composted over 100 tons of wet sludge every day, and incredibly, sold out by the end of the summer.

If you take a walk on the south side of the Vermont Place Park this fall, your walking on a Com-Till fortified lawn. Com-Till is the name for the City's recycled waste sludge compost product with a macro nutrient analysis is 2-3-0. The product is especially useful for amending clay soils that are void of organic material, letting the grass burn out in the dry summer weather.

The lawns of the Harrison West Park and the rest of the Vermont Place Park may be included in a demonstration project, if a new product the Division is developing, Com-Till Gold is ready for introduction this spring, depending on production schedules. Volunteers may be needed to assist.

The Division's sludge recycling program meets comprehensive new federal regulations following 17 years of investigation and research to determine safety standards. The material is chemically monitored and exceeds "agricultural grade" standards. A second product called Bio-Rich is hauled to area farms. The City's sludge recycling succeeds in converting over 99.5% of the waste inflow into products that are returned to the community.

Initially, a combination of wood chips and sludge are mixed and aerated, and the temperature and oxygen levels are closely monitored for optimum bacterial breakdown. After 21 days, the compost is restacked and allowed to mature another 80 days before it is screened and mixed with more wood chips. While selling treatment plant sludge is right up there with concepts like bottling water and printing money, the cost is quite reasonable, a pick up truck load goes for about \$12 or under a penny a pound when you bag your own at the Compost Facility, 7000 State Route 104 South, Lockbourne. Call 645-3152 for more information.

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From the president CRAIG COPELAND

October 1 was a beautiful fall day and the Harrison West Garage Sale turned out to be a great success for the 19 who signed up and the Society, which netted over \$100 after expenses. The money is earmarked for the legal fund. Some report that after trading with neighbors, they had almost as much as they started with. We'll do it again in a year or two.

Candidates' Night, organized by the University Area Community Association's Sharon Young at the Thompson Recreation Center at the end of September, held some exciting moments. Several times during the evening politicians vying for the same job squared off against each other. One of the opportunities was in the race for Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, when HWS Secretary Kevin Rouch's law partner, Charlie Lease, spoke opposite incumbent Judge David Cain. After making a strong oral argument, the challenger Lease quipped that you can see his yard signs all over town, "For Lease," in one of the evening's few lighter moments.

The main event of the evening was between Stinziano and Salerno. The challenger was on the attack with a flurry of charges, hoping to connect with the audience. You had to be there. If this were a review, it would be two thumbs up. State Representative Priscilla Mead also presented and took questions from the audience. In order that Harrison West and the greater Short North area becomes fixed in the minds of our political leaders, a greater

turnout is mandatory. Supreme Court candidate J. Ross Haffey came all the way from Cleveland to attend this time. Next year you will have your turn when several City Council seats will be up for election.

At the next Society meeting, October 13th, the second Thursday of

the month, Lauren Hoffman of Rumpke Recycling, Leslie Deaderick from the City's Refuse Collection Division and the Boy Scout's Jay Moore will be there to answer your questions about recycling and trash pickup here in Harrison West.

See you there!

What's Your Trash Worth?

Paper

Cardboard	\$50-\$60/ton
Newspaper	
#6 w/glossy paper	\$40-\$45/ton
#8 w/o inserts ...	\$55-\$60/ton

Plastics

#1 PETE (milk jugs) ...	\$160/ton
#2 HDTE (pop bottles) ..	\$180/ton

Glass

Clear glass	\$35/ton
Brown glass	\$25/ton
Green glass	\$15/ton

Metals

Aluminum	\$700/ton
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Prices for truck-load quantities at reprocessing plant.

Curbside recycling has had little effect

Nationwide, curbside recycling programs diverted only 2.5% of the nation's total trash volume in 1992 according to statistics released last week in a report funded by consumer products companies.

Curbside programs covered one-third of single-family residences in 1992, or about 27 million homes. Drop-off and buy-back programs, including paper drives, beverage container deposit laws and other consumer scrap efforts, accounted for 4.5%.

Yard waste collections diverted another 3% from the nation's dumps and incinerators. Industrial and com-

mercial recycling had the largest impact, an 11% reduction. In 1992, the U.S. produced 203 millions tons of municipal solid waste, of which 21% was recycled or composted.

On a local level, the overwhelming response to the Rumpke Waste recycling program has generated, in the first month, a 3% reduction in the total trash stream from the City of Columbus going to the Franklin County Solid Waste Authority, 2.5% from curbside pick up. The 11,773 households that have signed up citywide represents a huge increase over the estimated 3,000 that participated in the City's pilot program.



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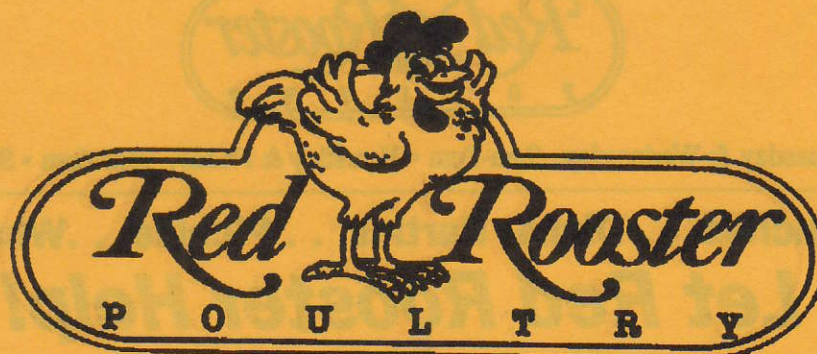
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BMI leads in recycling, energy alternatives

BATTELLE MEMORIAL INSTITUTE (BMI) has been developing environmental and recycling technologies for worldwide applications. The Environmental Systems and Technology Division has 3,500 employees in 40 offices around the world, with the majority of them at the Pacific Northwest Laboratory at Richland, Washington. The division is \$400 million segment of the organization's business. Much of the work has been with cleaning up polluted sites in Germany, particularly in the former East Germany. Following are several examples of Battelle's work in recycling, developing alternative energy sources, new environmental developments and environmental volunteerism.

HWN would like to thank Tom McClain, of BMI, for providing the following information.

OFFICE RECYCLING

More than 12 tons of white office paper is recycled every month through Battelle's highly successful office recycling program. Battelle staff sort paper to be recycled and custodians pick it up once a week in each office at the King Avenue complex. Battelle also recycles newspapers, magazines and other paper. This is the program's fourth year.

WOODCHIP ELECTRICITY

Researchers at Battelle recently successfully integrated a gas turbine with a biomass gasification pilot plant, creating the first known operation of a turbine with biomass-derived gas. The demonstration is significant because sawdust, bark, wood wastes, yard clippings and other forms of renewable resources can be efficiently and economically converted into electricity. Biomass fuels have the potential to make a significant

impact on the nation's energy supplies by reducing our dependence on foreign oil. At the Battelle plant in West Jefferson researchers daily fed up to 10 tons of wood into a gasifier with a mixture of steam and hot sand, which heats the biomass. Gas was produced from the wood, removed from the gasifier, scrubbed and used to fuel the gas turbine, which is similar to a jet engine. After the gas is produced from the wood it leaves the gasifier with the sand which is recycled into the gasifier. The charred wood is captured and sent to a combustor and

burned to reheat the sand.

Mark Paisley, who worked on the project for 15 years, said using the gas produced by the gasifier is more efficient than directly burning the wood.

BIODEGRADABLE MILK BOTTLES

Battelle researchers have developed a method of making inexpensive, lactic acid-based biodegradable plastics. Lactic acid-based plastics had been around for years and were used for such things as medical sutures. The plastic degrades into carbon dioxide and water. However, before Battelle


began research on the process, the plastic was too expensive for widespread use. The Battelle plastic can be used to make everything from milk bottles to foam coffee cups to shrink-wrap. It will decay in six months to two years after being exposed to moisture, preserving valuable landfill space.

CLEANING THE MIX

Battelle researchers Prakash Palepu and Satya Chauhan recently received a prestigious R&D 100 Award, presented annually by *R&D Magazine*, for developing a method to recycle the chemicals used in the electroless nickel plating process.

BIG DARBY SWEEP

Battelle staff members are volunteering to clean up river banks and ocean beaches. Here in central Ohio, Battelle employees have participated in clean-up efforts along scenic Big Darby Creek, which borders Battelle's West Jefferson facilities. Battelle staff in Duxbury, Massachusetts, site of Battelle's Ocean Sciences Lab, also recently organized a beach sweep that netted nearly 11 tons of trash along Duxbury's Atlantic coastline.



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Recycling

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Demand for plastics is similarly on the rise with prices for the plastic in milk and water containers nearly doubling in some parts of the country this year.

In April of next year, futures contracts will be traded for recycled materials at the Chicago Board of Trade in the pits right along side pork belly futures and other commodities. As manufacturing processes are adapted to recycling post-consumer waste instead of relying solely on virgin raw materials, and when steady supplies of household recyclables are picked up by companies like Rumpke Waste, then one can expect the process will evolved into something that runs more smoothly and at a lower cost than this first month of the recycling program in Harrison West.

Why recycle? Because recycling reduces dioxin emissions at the Franklin County Solid Waste Authority trash burning power plant and keeps landfill space from being used up. A U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) report released last month concludes there is a strong body of evidence that dioxin probably causes cancer in humans, as well as damaging the reproductive and immune systems in people. Under current EPA scientific guidelines, dioxin is designate "a probable human carcinogen" and minuscule exposures are considered hazardous. One of the main sources of dioxin is incinerator smokestacks resulting from the combustion of such chlorine containing substances as plas-

tics. Franklin County's trash incinerator may be one of the worst in the nation according to a recent report.

Paper fiber in the form of newspaper, household packaging, disposable diapers, etc., are also the items that fill up landfills the quickest. The City built the ill-fated, tax dollar fired, trash burning power plant to avoid forever creating new landfill space at taxpayer expense. Fortunately, demand for recycled newspaper is rising rapidly as paper companies are building de-inking plants to recycle waste paper, partly as a result of President Clinton's Executive Order that requires paper used by the federal government contain at least 20% recycled fibers, which many corporation have also adopted. Restrictions on logging in the U.S. also assure that recycling newsprint will be worthwhile well into the future.

Another opportunity to recycle in Harrison West beings this fall. Through a joint effort of Battelle and Boy Scout Troop 19, leaves, grass clippings and expired annual garden plants will be accepted for community composting at a site near West 4th Avenue and the Olentangy River. Battelle is providing the site, technical assistance and construction materials to the Boy Scouts. Plans call for the compost to be available in two years for neighborhood gardens. Troop master Jay Moore will also present the program at the next HWS meeting and field questions.

Protest rejected

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Funk has led the fight against Zeno's on behalf of neighbors who object to parking problems and the noise and nuisance of drunken patrons. The law in this case requires that circulators attach to the petition a list of all permit-holders that would be affected by the election.

Funk of 1148 Pennsylvania Ave. told board members she had one such list for each of the two questions to appear on the ballot. She carried both petitions and both lists on a clipboard as she gathered signatures. The lists were immediately underneath each petition. Funk gave board members a stock of affidavits from signers of the petitions, saying they were shown the list of permit-holders when they signed.

Brunner attacked Funk's credibility, telling board members they should not believe the affidavits. She quizzed Funk on why a husband's and wife's signature were in one order on one petition and the opposite order on the other petition, suggesting that the variance was evidence that Funk didn't circulate the petitions in the way she had described. Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Harland H. Hale told board members that Funk didn't have to prove the authenticity of each affidavit or explain why signatures were in different order on the different petitions. "It's the protestor's burden to prove the petitions invalid," Hale said. "Without any strong evidence of a flaw in the petitions, the law prefers that you put the issue on the ballot and let the people decide."

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