



West Central Neighborhood Association

WCNA Newsletter

Spring 2008

Letter from the President

As I write this, we are finishing two very busy and productive months since I took over as President of the West Central Neighborhood Association. Here's a brief rundown of what's been happening.

We got OUR parade back! By now, almost everyone knows that the Three Rivers Festival Parade will march down Wayne St. this summer. Parade staging will start on Main, run south down Rockhill to Wayne, and then east through the heart of West Central. Once again, our tree-lined streets will be alive with the sights, sounds and joys of the parade.

The "Space Needle" will not be a part of our neighborhood. As you probably know, Centennial Wireless proposed to build a 150'-tall cell phone tower right in our backyard, partially blocking the historic GE sign. Many residents of West Central appeared at the Board of Zoning Appeals meeting ready to speak up to protect our skyline. I give credit to Centennial for recognizing the sincerity of the opposition and halting the project. The cell phone tower now will be placed elsewhere. I thank everyone there that night. I know many expressed disappointment that their voices were not needed, but a win is a win. And this was a big one.

Work has begun on the Broadway corridor, and we should see the historic lighting and streetscape improvements by this summer.

We are getting more on-street parking. Washington Blvd. should be re-stripped this summer with parking allowed on the north side of the street. The Association voted to support the city's proposal for the parking at our February meeting. It was interesting to learn that the present traffic lanes on Washington are wider than those on a U.S. interstate. Because individual parking spaces will not be delineated, we don't know exactly how many spots will be added, but it will be a significant number.

Administratively, Jill Downs, who has been a tremendous asset, decided late last year not to continue as our part-time employee responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Association. She will continue to work for us with a focus on historic preservation as well as with the CHODO project at 1134 Nelson and the annual House and Garden Tour.

David Long started working as our Neighborhood Specialist, the position that Jill vacated. Some of you may remember David as a neighborhood activist and the first Chairman of the Southwest Area Partnership. David spent the past five years in San José del Cabo, Mexico, as an English teacher. Before moving to Mexico, he also served as the President of the Poplar Neighborhood Association for eight years. As of now, he primarily will be responsible for day-to-day tasks as well as helping with the newsletter. If you have any neighborhood questions or concerns, David can be reached on the West Central phone at 385-9378 (WEST).

Finally, I want to express my most sincere thanks to John Simerman, who I replaced as President of West Central in January. I hope to follow John's sterling example as well as I can. What John accomplished in the past two years is nothing short of amazing, and everyone should take a moment to say "thanks" when you see him around the neighborhood. John has left some big shoes for me to attempt to fill.

I'll see you at the next meeting,

Mike Anderson

Important City Phone Numbers

Animal Control

427-1244

Garbage/Recycling Collection

427-1270

Neighborhood Code Enforcement

427-1324

Mayor's Advocate

Ken Nicolet 427-1122

Parking Control

427-5050

Police (non-emergency)

427-1222

Police Liaison Officer

Preservation Planners

427-2160 Don Orban

427-2161 Creager Smith

Street Department

(pot holes, snow removal)

427-1235

Streetlight Maintenance

427-1236

Weed Control

427-1329

Zoning

427-1324

City Council

Tim Pape District 5

423-9411 / tmp@carsonboxberger.com

Marty Bender At-Large

747-1955 / martin.bender@ci.ft-wayne.in.us

John Shoaff At-Large

459-0221 / jshoaff@proparkwest.com

Liz Brown At-Large

485-1504 / liz.brown@ci.ft-wayne.in.us

Wellspring Needs Donations, Schedules Lunch

Wellspring, the interfaith social service organization at 1613 Broadway, is in need of donations to their food bank. Their food bank serves many clients, including West Central neighborhood residents. The organization requests donations of canned goods, non-perishable food items and personal hygiene products. They are unable to accept perishable items. Donations may be made by dropping off donations at their building or by calling 422-6618 to make other arrangements.

They also will begin a lunch program on Tuesdays beginning in April that will include lunch as well as activities. The program will run from about 12:30 pm until 2:30 pm. Call their office for more details..

West Central Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Mission Statement

The mission of the West Central Neighborhood Association is to enhance the environment of the West Central neighborhood by improving the quality of urban life for its residents, business owners, and visitors. It is committed to the preservation of diverse neighborhood assets as well as economic and partnership development.

Vision Statement

The vision of the West Central Neighborhood Association is to create a friendly environment that is rich in beauty, culture, diversity, and community and that is valued by its residents, business owners, and visitors.

West Central Neighborhood Association is a 501(c)(3), not-for-profit corporation.



FORT WAYNE, IN

www.strebigconstruction.com

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

917 West Jefferson Boulevard

Fort Wayne, IN 46802

423-1369

Worship on Saturdays at 5:00pm

Sundays at 8:00 am and 10:30 am

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 **Fort Wayne Dance Collective** presents:

blackgrace

an all-male dance company from New Zealand!

April 12, 2008 • 8pm • Arts United Center
Call 260-424-6574 or go to www.fwdc.org/blackgrace for tickets.



For Sale: Charming, Completely Remodeled WCNA Home

The WCNA has a completely remodeled home for sale at 1134 Nelson St. Located on an historic brick street, this charming, gable-front home overlooking Moody Park was rescued by the neighborhood association. With the assistance of the Indiana Association for Community Economic Development and the City of Fort Wayne, the WCNA financed the renovation of this home using a combination of federal funds and a loan from Tower Bank.

Renovation included the removal of asphalt-shingle siding and restoration of the wooden clapboards beneath; the addition of two dormers to increase headroom in the second story; first-floor laundry facilities; a completely new kitchen; a first-floor half-bath; and the creation of a modern interior layout including a full-bath on the second floor. The house also features new windows as well as all-new heating and air-conditioning, plumbing and electrical systems. The large-sized lot allows for plenty of off-street parking. There is room for a garage.



1134 Nelson Street

The home is for sale for \$75,000 to an owner/occupant who makes no more than 80% of the Area Median Income, a requirement of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. For Fort Wayne, the income levels are as follows: \$34,350 for a single person; \$39,250 for a family of two; and \$44,150 for a family of three or more.

If you or anyone you know are interested in touring this charming home in our historic neighborhood, please contact the WCNA at 385-WEST or Glenn Ellenberger of Keystone Realty at 484-0025. Or see <http://www.westcentralneighborhood.org/NelsonMarketingFinal.htm>

Kay Gnagey
KGNagey@aol.com

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Fax: 260.423.9480
Email: jrogers260@comcast.net

John W. Rogers
President

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Historic Swinney Homestead

1424 W. Jefferson Blvd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
260-424-7212

Offering Historic Hand-Art and Music Programs for the public.

Swinney Homestead Open House	May 2, 2008 10-4 p.m.
Spring Herb & Perennial Sale	May 2, 2008 10-4 p.m.
Victorian Christmas Dinners	December 3, 4, 5, 6 2008

**The West Central
Neighborhood Association**

P.O. Box 13151
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46867-3151
(260) 385-9378 (WEST)
www.westcentralneighborhood.org

OFFICERS

President

Mike Anderson 918-7368
anderson1170@msn.com

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smiranda@tomkinsondodge.com

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cwey0408@earthlink.net

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mikewalshfw@cs.com

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Tracy Potter 467-1575
xena20768@hotmail.com

CCW

Alan Potter 467-1575

Staff

David Long 385-9378
davidlongis@gmail.com

Message Board

The main page of the WCNA website offers a Message Board feature to share your views and opinions with others. It's also a good way to ask for or offer help and suggestions. Whatever message you leave can be viewed and replied to by other visitors to the site.

General Membership Meetings

General membership meetings of the WCNA are held on the third Monday of every month at 7pm at Wellspring Interfaith Social Services, 1316 Broadway.

Advertisement Guidelines

The WCNA prints four newsletters per calendar year with a circulation of 1400 per issue. WCNA business and organization members receive 1 free ad approximately 1-3/4" x 3" in each newsletter of the calendar year after dues are paid.

Advertising space is available for \$ 25.00 for an ad approximately 1-3/4" x 3" for a single issue.

Please submit a current business card, JPEG, PDF file or camera-ready artwork. Call 385-9378 for more information.

Membership Information

A membership application is available on the last page of this newsletter

St. Patrick's Day Celebrated by Firefighters

The Fort Wayne Firefighters' Union Local 124 held a celebration in honor of St. Patrick's Day two days early on Saturday, March 15, at their union hall, the remodeled firehouse at 1405 Broadway. The fun began about 10:00 am with trolley rides to the Wells Street Bridge. Attractions there included music and food as well as firefighting equipment from the Fort Wayne Fire Department. It was especially fun for the kids with plenty of photo opportunities – including with the firefighters' own leprechaun. At 11:00 am, they colored the St. Mary's River green, after which the trolleys returned everyone to the union hall.

The family-oriented fun continued back at 1405 Broadway, where traditional St. Patrick's Day corned beef and cabbage was offered for sale for both lunch and dinner. For the kids, there was face painting, a gold-coin hunt and a Lucky Charms eating contest. There also was a strong-man contest.

*"The roofs are shining
from the rain,
The sparrows twitter
as they fly,
And with a windy
April grace
The little clouds go
by.
Yet the back yards are
bare and brown
With only one
unchanging tree--
I could not be so sure
of Spring
Save that it sings in
me."*

- Sara Teasdale, April



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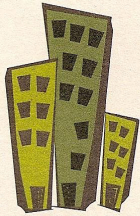


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HOUSE PORTRAITS

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WCNA Police Incident Report, January 2008

(NOT DEFINED)	1	INTOXICATED PERSON	7
MEET	9	DISTURBANCE	30
OPEN DOOR	4	DISTURBANCE - PARTY ARMED	3
THREATS	3	NUISANCE (SMOKE, NOISE, ETC)	1
TX THREATS	1	LOUD BOOM	2
UNWANTED PERSON	11	LOUD MUSIC	3
FOLLOWUP INVESTIGATION	2	LOUD PARTY	1
PICK UP PRISONER	3	NEIGHBORHOOD DISTURBANCE	2
SHOTS FIRED	1	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE	15
CAGE TRANSPORT PRISONER	1	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE	
C.O.P.S	3	W/BATTERY	8
WARRANT	5	REMOVAL OF ARTICLES	2
SERVING WARRANT	3	SUSPICIOUS	30
ASSIST	10	SUSPICIOUS PERSON PARK'D VEH	4
ASSIST AT ONCE	1	BURGLARY	3
PICK UP ITEM	3	BURGLARY ATTEMPTED	1
PICK-UP FOUND ITEM	1	BURGLARY IN PROGRESS	3
READ MOTOR NUMBER	2	BURGLARY - JUST OCCURRED	1
WORK TRAFFIC	2	THEFT	8
ESCORT	2	THEFT FROM VEHICLE	4
PROBLEM UNKNOWN	4	THEFT IN PROGRESS	1
JUVENILE INVESTIGATION	4	THEFT - JUST OCCURRED	1
JUVENILE NEGLECT/ABUSE INVESTI	1	ARMED ROBBERY	1
JUVENILE RECOVERY REPORT	1	MOLESTING	2
JUVENILE RUNAWAY REPORT	3	STRONG ARM ROBBERY	2
VANDALISM VEHICLE	1	CUTTING / STABBING	1
VANDALISM - JUST OCCURRED	2	PARTY ARMED	1
LOST/MISSING PERSON	1	ATTEMPT CONTACT/ CHECK WELLBEING	8
TRAFFIC ACCIDENT	24	PARTY NOT SEEN	1
ACCIDENT MUNICIPAL PROPERTY	4	ATTEMPTED SUICIDE	1
TRAFFIC ACCIDENT - HIT SKIP	7	SUICIDE THREATS	1
TRAFFIC ACCIDENT - INJURIES	5	72 HR COMMITMENT	2
TRAFFIC ACCIDENT - INJ / PIN	1	MENTALLY ILL	4
DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE	1	INDECENT EXPOSURE	2
TRAFFIC STOP	81	PURSUIT	1
DISABLED VEHICLE	1	CIVIL INVESTIGATION	2
DISABLED VEH.- TRAFFIC HAZARD	6	REPOSESSION	3
TRAFFIC HAZARD	6	INFORMATION REPORT	1
PARKED VEHICLE	8	911 HANG UP	17
PARKING VIOLATION	7	BATTERY	4
LOST / STOLEN PLATE	1	BATTERY - JUST OCCURRED	4
VEHICLE THEFT	5	NARCOTICS INVESTIGATION	2
STOLEN VEHICLE RECOVERY	4	EMS ASSIST	5
AUDIBLE ALARM	28	HARASSMENT	1
INTRUSION ALARM	2	LOST PROPERTY	1
PERSON DOWN	2	IMPOUND VEHICLE	5
MAN DOWN IN VEHICLE	2		
		TOTAL INCIDENTS	482

Information from the Fort Wayne Police Department.

Concerned Citizens Watch

The Concerned Citizens Watch patrols the neighborhood for suspicious activity and reports its findings to the Fort Wayne Police Department. If you are aware of any illegal activity or would like information about joining the group, contact Alan Potter at 467-1575 or Mike Anderson at 918-7368.

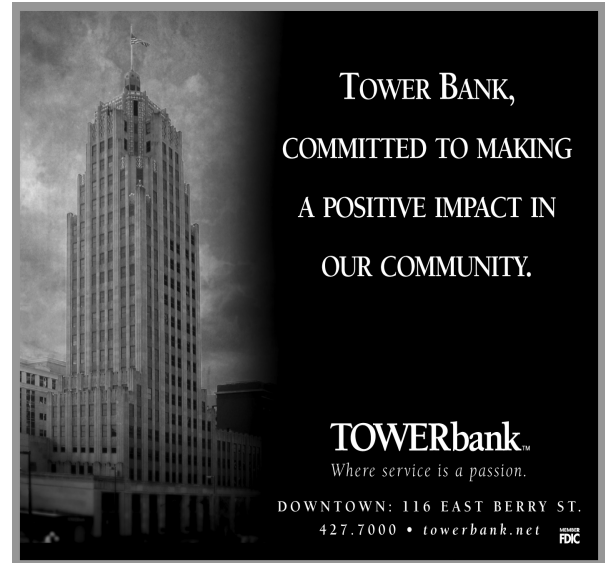
Grassroots Green Books Available

Grassroots Green is a new, locally based environmental action group founded to educate people about environmental issues and inspire them to work for a more sustainable world. They have produced the *Green Living Guide for Northeast Indiana*. The guide contains information that will help people to learn how to save energy, save money and take better care of our planet. The guide features many money-saving coupons good at many local businesses and organizations. By using the coupons, people who purchase the guide help to strengthen our region's economy.

John Steinbach, the founder of Grassroots Green with his wife Pamela, made a presentation at the March 17 meeting of the West Central Neighborhood Association.

Their guide is designed to be a fund-raising tool for not-for-profit organizations. Their goal is to help other organizations raise \$1,000,000 in 2008. The guide sells for \$15 each, with \$10 of that money going to the participating organization. The West Central Neighborhood Association decided to purchase 20 of the guides. In this way, our \$100 investment will bring us a profit of \$200.

The guide is also available at all Kroger or Scott's stores. Because of Kroger's commitment to the environment, each participating organization will garner an additional \$7.50 for each Green guide sold at an individual Kroger or Scott's store in one month. You may purchase a copy of the guide by calling 385-9378 (WEST) or by attending the April 21 meeting of WCNA at Wellspring, 1613 Broadway. By doing so, you will support your neighborhood association and the wellness of our planet.



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West Central Neighborhood Association 2008 Membership Application

Membership is on a calendar year basis; January 2008 through December 2008

Please make checks payable to:

WCNA
P.O. Box 13151
Fort Wayne IN 46867-3151

Membership Type and Cost

- \$ 10.00 Individual
- \$ 50.00 * Organization
- \$ 50.00 * Business
- \$ 100.00 Patron
- \$ 500.00 Benefactor
- \$ 1,000.00 Lifetime

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____ - _____ - _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** ____ **Zip:** _____

E-mail: _____

Suggestion: _____

* For organization and business members we will print your business card-sized logo in each newsletter of the calendar year *after* dues are paid. You must provide the logo. Contributions to the WCNA are tax-deductible in accordance with IRS Code regulations. The WCNA is a tax-exempt, non-profit, educational and charitable organization under state and federal laws.

You need not be a resident of the West Central Neighborhood to be a member of the association.



West Central Neighborhood Association
PO Box 13151
Fort Wayne, IN 46867-3151