



## West Central Neighborhood Association

# WCNA Newsletter

Summer 2008

**N**ow that summer is here, it's time to get outside. It's time to work in the yard, walk the neighborhood with a waffle cone from Downtown Pizza, paint and fix our homes, ride bikes, walk dogs, grill out, and play with the kids.

Summer also means that the nefarious elements of society are out as well. Local crime statistics show that West Central has far and away the lowest crime rate of any of the downtown neighborhoods and a lower rate than most of the outlying ones. We already know that this is a wonderful place to live. And as my friend Deputy Police Chief Doug Lucker says, "If you can find a neighborhood with zero crime, I'll move there with you."

Yet things do happen. Recently, two homes in the 1300 block of Jackson St. and two homes in the 500 block of Hendricks St. burned in suspicious fires. Copper thieves are targeting empty homes. One empty home had its aluminum siding stolen last year. Many neighborhoods in the city are experiencing similar difficulties.

But, while our crime rate is low, **WE CAN DO BETTER.** We can be a better and stronger neighborhood. Our neighborhood is home to a great diversity of people, and with just a little thought and effort, we can make it an even better place to live. How? Follow the Golden Rule: Treat other people the way you want to be treated. Everybody knows how *they* want to be treated.

When you are walking and meet someone, smile and say "Hi," whether you know your neighbor or not. Just say "Hi". You will be surprised at how uplifting it can be to just acknowledge each other. It also helps with crime safety. A criminal in the neighborhood is going to realize that he or she has been seen and can be identified. Criminals rely on neighbors not caring about each other. Call the police if something looks strange. Err on the side of caution each and every time. West Central needs your eyes.

Pick up trash and debris when you see it. Cut your grass, trim your bushes, take 30 minutes and tidy up the areas around your home. A great-looking neighborhood discourages crime. It's what's called the Broken Window Syndrome. A broken window tells criminals that the area is not cared for and leads to another broken window. Before long, the entire area is full of broken windows, graffiti, unkept yards, and a rise in criminal activity. Show everyone visiting our neighborhood that we care about West Central.

Join the West Central Neighborhood Association. Its \$10.00 a year. Meet like-minded people who care about where we all live. It's where you can talk to neighbors who understand your needs, hopes, and maybe your frustrations. Also, you can talk to area and city representatives who visit with us to give first-hand answers to your questions. WCNA is your voice and connection to local government. There is strength in numbers. With help, we can accomplish almost anything to improve the quality of life for all of us.

Send me a simple email directly to [anderson1170@msn.com](mailto:anderson1170@msn.com) and ask to be added to the association email newsletter. We are trying to build an email list of residents so that we can send out information in a quicker and more timely manner.

West Central is the greatest neighborhood in the entire city for downtown living and quality of life. We can still do better. Take a few minutes to meet or greet a neighbor today. Take a moment to pick up litter and trash. Join the neighborhood association. We are better as a neighborhood when we all work together.

I sincerely hope to see you at the next general meeting at 7:00 pm on July 21 at Wellspring, 1316 Broadway.

*Mike Anderson*



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## Neighborhood Clean-Up Days

Three important neighborhood cleanup events have been scheduled for the summer by the WCNA. These include two "Dumpster Days" and a tire disposal opportunity. All three events will take place at the municipal parking lot at the corner of Wilt and Van Buren streets. The two "Dumpster Days" are scheduled, one for Saturday, June 28, and the other for Saturday, August 23. On these days from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., there will be a large dumpster placed at the parking lot. Anyone in the neighborhood with large amounts of trash or debris is welcome to use the dumpster to dispose of unwanted items. Following is a list of those items that cannot be placed in the dumpster: anti-freeze, fertilizers, appliance with Freon, fire extinguishers, asphalt, fluorescent bulbs, auto fluids, freon refrigerant auto parts, hazardous waste, chemicals, herbicides, closed containers, items containing mercury, compressed gas, lead acid batteries, concrete, leaves, explosives, liquids, oil-based paints, pesticides, radioactive materials, special waste, tires and used oil. Latex paint cans need to be dried out before placing in the container. We cannot accept paint in a liquid form as it will leak out onto the ground or street.

The tire disposal day will be held Saturday, August 16. On this day, residents may drop off tires at the municipal parking lot from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. The tires may be with or without rims. The neighborhood will be paid 75 cents by the city for each tire up to a total of 200. This is a great way to rid the neighborhood of old tires, which often serve as mosquito hatcheries as well as earn money for the association.

## Historic Apartments and Houses For Rent

# Hillside Rentals

Call 918-RENT(7368)  
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### 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.*

**The West Central  
Neighborhood Association**

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

**OFFICERS**

**President**

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anderson1170@msn.com

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**Secretary**

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cwey0408@earthlink.net

**Treasurer**

Mike Walsh 424-7532  
mikewalshfw@cs.com

**Membership**

Tracy Potter 467-1575  
xena20768@hotmail.com

**C C W**

Alan Potter 467-1575

**Staff**

David Long 385-9378 (WEST)  
davidlongis@gmail.com

**MESSAGE BOARD**

The main page of the WCNA website has a message board feature designed for you to share your views and opinions with others. It also is a good way to ask for and offer help and suggestions. All messages 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 Wellspring Interfaith Social Services, 1316 Broadway.

**ADVERTISEMENT GUIDELINES**

The WCNA prints four newsletters per calendar year with a circulation of 1,400 per issue. WCNA Business and Organization members receive one free, business-card size ad in each newsletter of the calendar year after dues are paid. Advertising space is available for \$25.00 for a business-card size ad for a single issue. For information, call 385-9378 (WEST)

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

A membership application form appears on the last page of this newsletter.

## WCNA Wins 2008 ARCHIE for 1134 Nelson;

*4 Other West Central Structures and 5 Residents Also Recognized*

The West Central Neighborhood Association's restoration of 1134 Nelson St. received an ARCHIE award June 4 for Outstanding Restoration of a Single Family Home by ARCH, the local historic preservation organization. ARCH announced a total of six ARCHIEs; of these, three of the four single-family home winners and one of the two commercial structure winners are in West Central.

The Nelson St. restoration citation noted that "West Central Neighborhood Association created a Community Housing Development Organization (CHODO) and received funding to renovate this deteriorated house inside and out, located in the historic district. " The other two West Central single-family home ARCHIEs were awarded to neighborhood resident Bernie Gump for his restoration of the neighboring homes at 1011 and 1013 Jefferson Blvd. His citation noted "outstanding restoration projects for each [home]. Each project included extensive exterior renovations, siding and porch repairs and correcting of earlier alterations."

The Fort Wayne Firefighters Union Local 124 received the Leonard G. Murphy Award for Outstanding Commercial Restoration for Old Fire Station No. 5 at 1405 Broadway, the union meeting hall. The firefighters' citation noted that the firefighters union had "updated this historic fire station, inside and out, with particular attention to restoring the station doors."

ARCH also announced five commendations. Of a total of five structures, two are in West Central. One of these went to the City of Fort Wayne, Board of Public Works for the restoration of the brick paving on Wilt St. Many West Central neighbors worked on this project. The ARCH commendation noted that "following a study of Fort Wayne's historic brick streets by the West Central Neighborhood Association and ARCH in 2005, a workshop was held with the City of Fort Wayne, and street departments from around the area received instructions on maintaining and repairing historic brick pavement. The Fort Wayne Board of Public Works used this training and organized a collaborative project with West Central volunteers to repair the brick pavement on Wilt Street. ARCH commends this effort...."

Randy Strebbig of Rogers/Boxbergers/Strebbig Construction, 537 W. Jefferson Blvd., also received a commercial restoration commendation. His citation noted that he "took on the vacant Boxberger's store, and updated it with new storefront sections, while dividing the space for several more downtown businesses. The glazed brick building was originally built as a Rogers Market, and is one of the few glazed brick commercial buildings remaining in the city."

ARCH further acknowledged four neighborhood residents for listing their properties as local historic districts or on the National Register in 2007. These are Joanne Bruce, Scott Greider, Bill Lupkin, and John Simerman.

The WCNA thanks both ARCH for its recognition of all of the hard work and dedication by members of the association at 1134 Nelson St. as well as all the other neighborhood individuals and organizations for their continued commitment to the preservation of our historic neighborhood. The award winning home at 1134 Nelson St. is still for sale. For information, contact Glenn Ellenberger of Keystone Realty at 484-0025 or David Long at 385-9378 (WEST).

### IMPORTANT CITY GOVERNMENT PHONE NUMBERS

#### Emergency – 911

- Animal Control – 427-1244*
- Garbage/Recycling Pickup – 427-1270*
- Neighborhood Code Enforcement/Housing – 427-1324*
- Neighborhood Code Enforcement/Weeds – 427-1329*
- Parking Control – 427-5050*
- Police/Non-emergency – 427-1222*
- Preservation Planners*
  - Don Orban 427-2160
  - Creager Smith 427-2161
- Street Department – 427-1235*
- StreetLight Maintenance – 427-1236*
- Zoning – 427-1324*

#### City Council

##### District 5

Tim Pape – 423-9411  
 tmp@carsonboxberger.com

##### At-Large

Marty Bender – 747-1955  
 martin.bender@ci.ft-wayne.in.us

Liz Brown – 485-1504  
 liz.brown@ci.ft-wayne.in.us

John Shoaff – 459-0221  
 jshoaff@proparkwest.com

# Dumpster Day, June 28

# Tire Disposal, August 16

# Dumpster Day, August 23

*8:00 am to 11:00 am*  
*At the municipal parking lot*  
*At Wilt and Van Buren streets*



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The 26th annual West Central Neighborhood Association Home & Garden Tour and Arts Fest will be held on September 6 and 7 from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. As of press time, there are five homes and/or gardens on the tour; an apartment; Trinity Episcopal Church; the Klaehn, Fahl & Melton funeral home; and the recently renovated fire station on Broadway. One of the stops is the house shown at right, which includes a chapel. This is a major fund-raising event for the neighborhood association as well as a way to raise the awareness of the historic nature of West Central. Organizers need volunteers at each location to help meet visitors and answer their questions. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact David Long at 385-9378 (WEST)




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# LHD Expansion Sought

The West Central Neighborhood Association recently began laying the groundwork for a campaign to increase the area of the neighborhood that has been designated a Local Historic District (LHD). As part of the city government's plan to preserve and protect the area surrounding the Harrison Square development, the LHD designation will help to maintain the character of our neighborhood while increasing the value of the properties therein. The major benefit will be to protect property owners from inappropriate alterations or construction on adjacent properties. The major requirement of the designation is that changes to any elements of the property subject to public view must undergo a design review process. Association Secretary Charlotte Weybright chairs the committee guiding our side of the campaign.



*The area proposed for addition to the neighborhood's Local Historic District is the shaded area in the lower center of the map shown above.*

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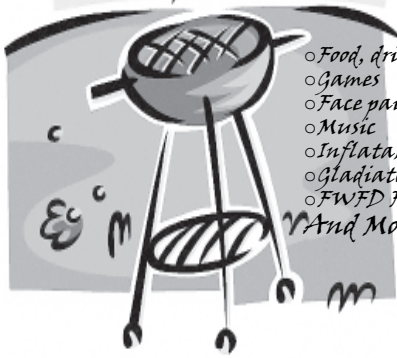
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**New members welcome**

[www.settlersinc.org](http://www.settlersinc.org)

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**fwm<sup>o</sup>a**



# 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**