

West Central Neighborhood Association WCNA Newsletter

Winter 2010

Enter the 2010 Holiday Decorating Contest

The West Central Neighborhood Association is proud to announce it's first annual Outdoors Holiday Decorating Contest in partnership with Cindy Lambert of Sentimental



Journeys Carriage Rides.

Judging for the contest will take place on Saturday, December 11 by judges from outside the neighborhood.

First place will be awarded a \$50 gift certificate from Hall's

Gas House and a 1-hour carriage ride; second place will receive a \$35 Gas House gift certificate and a half-hour carriage ride; and third place will receive a \$25 Gas House gift certificate and a half-hour carriage ride. Traditional decorations will be given preference in judging (i.e., a yard full of inflatable characters probably will not win). The only qualification for entry is to live within the boundaries of the neighborhood association.



Association Holiday Party December 20 at Old Firehouse

Join your friends and neighbors at the annual WCNA holiday party on Monday, December 20, at 7:00 pm at the Fort Wayne Firefighters Union Hall, 1405 Broadway.

This party is held in place the December general membership meeting. Food for the occasion is provided by the neighborhood association and attendees are requested to bring something to drink. Alcoholic beverages are permitted. This is a great way to get together with other residents in a festive and convivial atmosphere.

We hope to see you there!

One-Cart Recycling Bins Available for 2011

The City of Fort Wayne will be launching its brand new One-Cart Recycling Program beginning in January of 2011. This popular trend of recycling has proven to boost participation rates by making recycling easier for residents.

One-Cart Recycling means that all recyclables will be conveniently placed in one cart and will no longer need to be sorted. In addition, plastics #1 through #7 will be accepted. The recycling carts are easily identified by the bright yellow lid; and at no extra cost, residents can have a 96- or 48-gallon recycling cart delivered to their home. The City requires all interested participants to sign up. This quick and easy process can be done in seconds by visiting www.recyclefortwayne.org, or by dialing 311 to request a cart.

Recycling collection will continue to be every other week on the same day as your scheduled garbage pick-up. For this reason, the City recommends that households with two or more people choose a 96-gallon cart. Residents who have their garbage collected in the alley now will have their recycling collected in the alley with the new program.

The initial delivery of carts will begin in January and continue through April. The carts will be delivered to specific sections of the City at a time, so not everyone will receive their cart immediately. A postcard will be sent to your address to let you know when delivery is taking place in your area. Until then, residents are encouraged to continue using the brown and yellow bins until they are replaced with a recycling cart. After the initial delivery, carts will still be available, free of charge, to those who have signed up.



**The West Central
Neighborhood Association**
P.O. Box 13151
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46867-3151
(260) 385-9378 (WEST)
www.westcentralneighborhood.org

OFFICERS FOR 2011

President

Charlotte Weybright, 420-9425
cwey0409@frontier.com

Vice President

Susan Smethers, 750-6703
sksmethers@msn.com

Secretary

Justin Stalter, 450-7524
jstalter@digital-avd.com

Treasurer

Chris Ruckman, 426-3946
rukis2@comcast.net

Membership

Carol Salge, 426-6986
carolgolden@hotmail.com

CCW

Mike Anderson, 918-7368
Larry Codding, 422-8110

Staff

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 7:00 pm 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 information.

Membership Information

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

Officers List Goals for 2011

Following are the goals of the new 2011 officers of the West Central Neighborhood Association as presented to the nominating committee:

President: Charlotte Weybright:

I am providing you with a list of my goals for 2011 so that you may have a sense of what I see for our association, in particular, and our neighborhood, in general... Here are my goals for your review.

Short-term goals:

1. Meet and greet with business owners who are a part of our association. I would like to see a growth in membership and participation from these businesses. Toward that goal, I will be visiting each West Central business encompassed by our association boundaries and discussing our association and its benefits.
2. Reach out to the south part of the association. Our West Central Association includes the area south of the railroad tracks, but we see very little participation from these individuals. Toward that goal, I will be soliciting participation by individuals who reside in that area through personal contact.
3. Grow the visibility and membership of the committees mandated by our Bylaws with a focus on the fundraising committee. The WCNA Bylaws mandate a number of committees. While we have established several of those, I would like to see the committees listed in the Bylaws become a viable and integral part of our organization.
4. Invite participation of additional individuals to sit on the Board of Directors.
5. Establish a separate CHDO committee. Progress is being made on this goal already, and I believe it is necessary to establish the CHDO committee - separate and apart from the Board and its officers - to focus on CHDO projects.
6. Work in conjunction with the City to rehabilitate the 800 block of West Washington Blvd.
7. LHD expansion. It is increasingly important to ensure that our local historical district is updated as the City moves forward with its new zoning designations and its new design standards. As the City places increased importance on maintaining an attractive and viable urban core, West Central needs to ensure that our homes and structures also mesh with the City's goals and are protected.
8. Maintain contact with association general membership through email updates and progress on various issues. My emails would focus on various areas not covered by the e-newsletter sent out by [our staff person].

Long-term goal:

Use the City's recent West Central housing study to implement strategic plans to renovate and preserve West Central housing stock and increase the variety of ownership options....

Vice President: Susan Smethers

I will first say, as Vice President, I would support the elected President and decisions made by the Association as well as the Board. My number one priority may seem like a strange one without too much outward impact; however, in the long run I feel it will be of great benefit to the Association.

My Background: Lifetime resident of Fort Wayne. Graduated from South Side HS then received Bachelor Degree from Ball State University. Employed by Lincoln Financial Group since 1990 which includes 11 years

New Officers for 2011

At its general membership meeting on November 15, the West Central Neighborhood Association elected by unanimous vote the slate of officers as presented. Those officers and their positions are as follows: Charlotte Weybright, president; Susan Smethers, vice president; Justin Stalter, secretary; Chris Ruckman, treasurer; and Carol Salge, membership coordinator. The slate of officers was presented by Larry Coddling, head of the Nominating Committee. Earlier, the officers presented their goals for the coming year by email to the membership. These are printed on pages 2 and 5.

The Ending from Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol

“Now, I’ll tell you what, my friend,” said Scrooge. “I am not going to stand this sort of thing any longer. And therefore,” he continued, leaping from his stool, and giving Bob such a dig in the waistcoat that he staggered back into the tank again--”and therefore I am about to raise your salary!”

Bob trembled, and got a little nearer to the ruler. He had a momentary idea of knocking Scrooge down with it, holding him, and calling to the people in the court for help and a strait-waistcoat.

“A merry Christmas, Bob!” said Scrooge, with an earnestness that could not be mistaken, as he clapped him on the back. “A merrier Christmas, Bob, my good fellow, than I have given you for many a year! I’ll raise your salary, and endeavor to assist your struggling family, and we will discuss your affairs this very afternoon, over a Christmas bowl of smoking bishop, Bob! Make up the fires and buy another coal-scuttle before you dot another “i”, Bob Cratchit!”

Scrooge was better than his word. He did it all, and infinitely more; and to Tiny Tim, who did NOT die, he was a second father. He became as good a friend, as good a master, and as good a man as the good old City knew, or any other good old city, town, or borough in the good old world. Some people laughed to see the alteration in him, but he let them laugh, and little heeded them; for he was wise enough to know that nothing ever happened on this globe, for good, at which some people did not have their fill of laughter in the outset; and knowing that such as these would be blind anyway, he thought it quite as well that they should wrinkle up their eyes in grins as have the malady in less attractive forms. His own heart laughed, and that was quite enough for him.

He had no further intercourse with Spirits, but lived upon the Total-Abstinence Principle ever afterwards; and it was always said of him that he knew how to keep Christmas well, if any man alive possessed the knowledge. May that be truly said of us, and all of us! And so, as Tiny Tim observed, God bless Us, Every One!

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.

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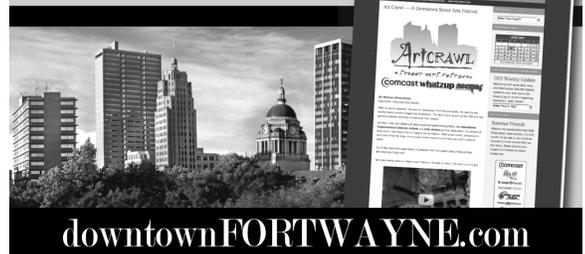
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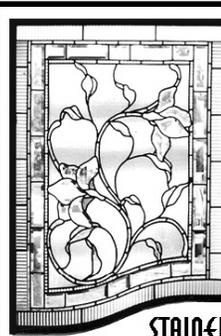
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PLAY DOWNTOWN

Help Wanted: WCNA Job Opening

The West Central Neighborhood Association (WCNA) has an opening for its part-time neighborhood specialist position. The qualifications and responsibilities of the position are as follows:

Hours: Employee should expect to average 15 to 20 hours per week and is paid at the rate of \$12.00 per hour.

Responsibilities: Pick up and distribute mail twice weekly or as requested by board; Maintain and professionally answer WCNA cell phone without exceeding limits of cell phone plan; Timely and professionally respond to the questions and requests of the board and association members; Prepare printed newsletter quarterly and e-newsletter weekly under board guidance; Maintain content and appearance of the WCNA website; Research and pursue grants; Prepare written communications as requested by board; Assist treasurer with accounting and financial functions; Interface with other agencies as requested by board; Complete timesheets in 15-minute increments and email timesheets to president & treasurer bi-weekly; Provide periodic executive summaries of activities to board; Attend meetings as needed or requested, including: Board of directors meeting: 6:00 to 8:00 PM the Tuesday before the general meeting; H&G tour meeting: 7:00 to 9:00 PM the Tuesday after the general meeting (employee is expected to take notes during the tour meeting and email those notes to tour committee); employee is welcome to attend the WCNA monthly meeting on the 3rd Monday from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at Wellspring, but is not compensated for attending this meeting unless approved by board; Perform other duties as requested by board.

Qualifications: Ability to work independently, set priorities and meet deadlines; Demonstrate attention to detail; Strong interpersonal, verbal and written communication skills; Employee must be personable, neutral, and flexible and work well with others; Proficient with computer applications, including MS Office and website maintenance; Some familiarity with government and agencies; Some knowledge of the West Central neighborhood; Provide independent means of transportation (mileage is not reimbursed unless approved by the board).

Equipment Provided: Cell phone: if phone plan is exceeded, employee must reimburse WCNA for the cost of excess minutes; Laptop computer with software is provided if employee takes over the accounting functions of QuickBooks, otherwise employee should use own computer and provide periodic file backups to a board member.

Miscellaneous: All materials (including, but not limited to, data, documents, files, distribution lists, and the WCNA cell phone number) created, produced or gathered in the course of or result of any work performed for the WCNA shall be the exclusive property of the WCNA and shall be delivered to the WCNA upon request; Employee shall be bound by a duty of confidentiality to protect sensitive and personal information.; The WCNA does not have an office, so the employee may work at own choice of locations. Employee shall receive a \$25 monthly allowance for internet access. Employee must remain politically impartial while representing the WCNA and abide by WCNA bylaws.

Interested candidates should email their resume and a cover letter to president@westcentralneighborhood.org. The WCNA is an equal opportunity employer.

Officer Goals — continued from Page 2

of management experience. Strong civic mindset instilled by parents who held various community leadership roles. I grew up in West Central and have been a homeowner in West Central since 2000.

A Main Priority: Increase the participation role of the Vice President. Currently the Vice President has two deliverables in addition to other WCNA board member duties: 1) take over for the association president if needed, and 2) set and lead the 1st Home & Garden annual tour committee meeting. I feel by increasing the responsibilities of the Vice President, we better prepare our Board and Association for continued growth.

- The Vice President would have a shared responsibility in leading the discussion in meetings; co-attending meetings and discussions with the City and other partners allowing for better formed relationships and networking within the community.
- Reduce the work-load of the President which would allow quicker turn around, increased completion of tasks, multi-tasking of efforts.
- Better preparedness for Vice President to take the President role if elected.

Increased visibility by association members so they better know who they may be electing as President in future years.

- Opportunities for Association:
- Increase membership & participation
- Seek additional funding opportunities for our Association....
- Continue ongoing Historic Preservation efforts & opportunities....
- Revitalize social interaction across the entire neighborhood....

Miscellaneous Items include more face time with our neighborhood police officer – work with the City to get our officer attending all or part of our monthly Association meeting; share helpful safety tips with residents; keep neighbors involved in Citizen Crime Watch activities – recognize members and rally to find new members; and find ways to increase the visibility of West Central by those who pass through our neighborhood, visit businesses within our boundaries and for those wanting to relocate.

Secretary: Justin Stalter

.... I would like to talk with Charlotte [Weybright] and Susan [Smethers] about the neighborhood association going in the direction of having a part-time executive director ... and moving more of the responsibility to this person rather than having the board micro-manage day to day operations. This person could then bring on intern(s) to help plan and organize strategic neighborhood programs and/or identify and execute new fund raising opportunities. Other long-term goals I would like to see include a new neighborhood association website, a public neighborhood association office (shared with another business or homeowner), a change in the membership fee structure, and gateway improvements as you enter the neighborhood/downtown on Jefferson via automobile. I know it's a lot to think about but wanted to give [everyone] an idea of where I see [the neighborhood] going in the event that I move from Secretary to Vice President to President. I think this would be beneficial in elevating the position of the neighborhood in the non-profit community.

Treasurer: Chris Ruckman

My goal as treasurer for 2011 will be to continue to protect the financial status of the WCNA, making sure that we are fiscally responsible to our members and in line with the mission and purpose of the association. I will provide accurate monthly financial reports to the board and general membership. I will file the necessary quarterly and annual reports required by the state and federal governments. I will provide financial oversight with a strong focus on the details, requiring receipts or invoices for every expense that is paid by the association. I will maintain accurate records of every revenue and expense item.

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ONGOING HOLIDAY EVENTS

FESTIVAL OF GINGERBREAD: The History Center, 302 East Berry St., Mondays through Thursdays 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Fridays 9:00 am to 8:00 pm, Saturdays 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sundays 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm, \$5 adults, \$3 seniors and students, free to ages 5 and under. Through December 12. For information, visit www.fwhistorycenter.com.

HOLIDAY HOUSES FOR HABITAT: Grand Wayne Center, 120 West Jefferson Blvd., open November 24 through December 23. For information, visit www.holidayhousesforhabitat.org.

AWS FANTASY OF LIGHTS: Franke Park, 3411 Sherman Blvd., Sundays through Thursdays 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, Fridays and Saturdays 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm, \$5 a car, \$10 a limousine or passenger van, \$25 a bus or trolley. Benefits Anthony Wayne Services. Open through December 31. For information, call 744-6145. Carriage rides available. For carriage ride information and reservations, call 260-691-3780.

HOLIDAY SHOW: Castle Gallery of Fine Art, 1202 West Wayne St., Tuesday through Saturday 11:00 am to 6:00 pm, free. Featuring nationally recognized artists. For information, call 426-6568.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 10, 11, 12*, 17, 18, DROOD (THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD, A MUSICAL): Arena Dinner Theatre, 719 Rockhill St.; doors open at 6:15 pm, dinner served at 7:00 pm, curtain time is 8:00 pm; \$35 per person. *December 12 is a matinee.

For information and reservations, call 424-5622 or visit www.arenadinnertheatre.org.

DECEMBER 7 and 10-12, FORT WAYNE BALLET PRESENTS THE NUTCRACKER: Arts United Center, 303 East Main Street, evening performances 8:00 p.m. and weekend matinees at 2:30 p.m. Sugar Plum Parties immediately follow all matinee performances. For information, call 484-9646 or visit www.fortwayneballet.org.

DECEMBER 12, HEARTLAND CHORALE AND THE FESTIVAL CHOIR PERFORMS HANDEL'S "MESSIAH": IPFW, Rhinehart Music Center, Auer Performance Hall, 7:00 pm, \$20. The Festival Choir is made up of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Chorus, the Bach Collegium, the Choral Union from IPFW, and members of numerous community and church choirs throughout Fort Wayne. For information and tickets, 436-8080 or visit www.heartlandchorale.org.

DECEMBER 13, GREASE: Embassy Theatre, 125 West Jefferson Blvd., 7:30 pm. For information and tickets, call 424-5665 or visit www.fwembassytheatre.org.

DECEMBER 19, HEARTLAND CHORALE SINGS "A CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS: Trinity Episcopal Church, 611 West Berry St., 4:00 pm, \$20. For information and tickets, 436-8080 or visit www.heartlandchorale.org.

DECEMBER 21, THE LONGEST NIGHT: First Presbyterian Church, 300 West Wayne St., 7:00 pm. This is a service for those for whom the holidays are difficult. It is not a preaching service, but one that offers time .



Continued from Page 6

for reflection and meditation. Fellowship and light refreshments will follow the service. For information, call Rev. Ed. Dykstra at 426-7421

DECEMBER 27, 29 29, 36TH ANNUAL BOAR'S HEAD YULE LOG FESTIVAL: Plymouth Congregational Church, 501 West Berry St., performances at 5:30 pm and 8:00 pm, tickets are free, but you must have one. For information and tickets, call the church office at 423-9424.

JANUARY 2, 2011, GEORGE R. MATHER LECTURE SERIES "FORT WAYNE'S INTERURBANS": The History Center, Shields Room, 302 East Berry St., 2:00 pm, free. Presented by Craig Berndt. For information, call 425-2882 or visit www.fwhistorycenter.com.

JANUARY 25, 2011, THE COLOR PURPLE: Embassy Theatre, 125 West Jefferson Blvd., 7:00 pm, ticket prices TBD. A Broadway at the Embassy Event. For more information and season subscriptions, call the box office at 424-6287 or visit www.fwembassytheatre.org. Best parking is at 100 East Washington Blvd for only \$2.



FEBRUARY 6, 2011, GEORGE R. MATHER LECTURE SERIES "20TH CENTURY AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN'S CLUBS": The History Center, Shields Room, 302 East Berry St., 2:00 pm, free. Presented by Doris Yerger. For information, call 425-2882 or visit www.fwhistorycenter.com.



FEBRUARY 10, 2011, SETTLER'S HAND-ARTS SERIES - NOW & THEN! VALENTINE LOVE LORE: Swinney Homestead, 1424 West

Jefferson Blvd., 9:00 am and 6:30 pm, \$15 per person for non-Settler members. Choose either time slot and see a display of antique valentines and hear the history of Valentine's Day and early love lore. Quill a Valentine for your sweetheart. Program open to anyone 14 years of age or older. (Ages 14-18 must attend with an adult). Free parking. For information, call Judy Bozarth at 637-6692.

FEBRUARY 9, 2011, RIVERDANCE: Embassy Theatre, 125 West Jefferson Blvd., 7:30 pm, ticket prices TBD. A Broadway at the Embassy Event. For more information and season subscriptions, call the box office at 424-6287 or visit www.fwembassytheatre.org.

Important City Phone Numbers

One Call to City Hall / 311

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

Preservation Planners / 427-2160 (Don Orban), 427-2161 (Creager Smith)

City Council

Tim Pape District 5

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West Central Neighborhood Association 2011 Membership Application

Membership is on a calendar year basis; January 2011 through December 2011

Please make checks payable to:

WCNA
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Fort Wayne, Indiana 46867

Membership Type and Cost

- \$ 10.00 Senior (over 60)
- \$ 15.00 Individual
- \$ 50.00 Organization
- \$ 50.00 Business
- \$ 100.00 Patron
- \$ 500.00 Benefactor
- \$ 1000.00 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.