

# The West End

By and for the West End Neighborhood

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THE WEST END ASSOCIATION:

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU???

If you want to live in a neighborhood made up of people who know each other and who care for each other's well-being. . .

If you want to live in a place that has both natural and architectural beauty. . .

If you want to live in safe houses and apartments, on safe lots, next to safe streets. . .

If you want to magnify your voice in such matters as zoning, traffic control, recreation, and the timely provision of municipal services. . .

If you enjoy spending time amid a place that keeps alive a sense of its own special history. . .

If you want to see the value of the residential real estate you own go up at least as much as real estate values generally. . .

If you want to encourage attractive businesses where you want to shop, eat, drink or whatever, to locate in this area. . .

If you want the businesses in your neighborhood to blend in with and serve the residential community rather than to overwhelm it. . .

If you want to insure that Hanes Park and Grace Court are kept up and kept safe. . .

If you want to contribute to the re-development of downtown Winston-Salem as a place people will want to come to for living, working, shopping and entertainment. . .

If you want to have an excuse to get together with your neighbors and socialize a little at Christmastime and during the summertime. . .

If you want to become involved in a common effort that has impact in the political arena that is closest to you--your own neighborhood. . .

If you want to help your neighbors who want these things. . .

If you want something else compatible with these these that we've overlooked. . .

THEN JOIN THE WEST END ASSOCIATION, and give it your support.

Your association can't function without dues-paying members, and 1983 dues are due right now. Dues are tax deductible at \$10.00 per year for a family

West End Clean-up Week-end and Pot-luck Supper . . .Big news on the back page!

WE'RE THE WEST END . . . OF THE CENTER CITY:

The officers and board members of your Association were bombarded with information at the monthly meeting on April 12th, held in the basement of the Arts Council offices downtown. There were three presentations given by people who are vitally involved in planning the future of downtown Winston-Salem, a future that is linked inextricably with the future of our neighborhood.

The opening presentation was made on behalf of Wachovia Bank & Trust Company by Dalton Ruffin, Regional V-P, and by Tom Calloway, of the architects Newman, Calloway, Johnson and Winfree. As you probably are already aware, Wachovia has announced plans to build a new office building for its Operation Center, which is currently based in the Phillips Building (the one behind the skyscraper). The bank plans to employ three shifts of mostly clerical workers, some 700 altogether, in a ¼-million sq. ft. facility. The structure will have a parking basement with ins and outs on both 4½ and 5th streets, topped by 4 floors of offices. It's going to stretch from the rear of Gray Court Apartments down to G. Carlyle's Salon. That's big, folks. They plan to start construction soon and move into the Center by early 1985.

The main concern voiced at the meeting is traffic. While there does not appear to be any problem with parking, the disgorging of a couple hundred cars during an already congested rush hour onto westward one-way streets is going to put a lot of pressure on bottlenecks at Summit, Fourth, Fifth and Glade streets in this neighborhood -- assurances to the contrary notwithstanding. One suggestion was to bring in Roy Williams, a City traffic engineer, and exchange views on how to respond to the challenges posed by the bank's plans.

Comment during and after this presentation might be fairly summarized in this way: Wachovia always has been a pretty thoughtful neighbor; we appreciate its people coming to talk with us; we'd rather they'd build residences on that site rather than another office building; we'd rather that's what the market demanded; we don't agree that a structure of this size will have a negligible impact on the safety of our streets; we intend to keep communication lines open with the bank and the city to minimize whatever adverse impact that might be felt; we encourage them to plant the shrubs and trees that green up the architects drawings.

Next, we heard from Gail Citron, the developer, and Tom Calloway, who at this point in the evening was establishing himself as a red-hot architect. They showed us some drawings and told us about their plans for development of the area between and around the Stevens Center (perhaps you've heard of it?) and the Sawtooth Center. Gail cited the extensive, sophisticated market research

The third presentation was made by City Planner Allen Joines, who outlined the "Proposed GFC & Central Area Action Plan Management and Participation Structure," which soon will be famous in city-planning circles as the PGFC&CAAPM&PS. All this is a complex multi-step planning process with its focus on the center-city but its concern spreading throughout this county and across the Piedmont Triad. Allen handed out a fairly baffling matrix of nine "tasks" (and 38 sub-tasks) which are to be done in four "phases." There were also numerous maps on hand, including a couple which are encouraging in that they appear to take cognizance of the special character of the West End and seem to support our efforts to perpetuate this character within a re-developing Winston-Salem.

Again, in the way of summary, there was nothing particularly "threatening" in either the Citron or Joines schemes. Obviously, both bear watching, especially the latter, in that a move away from the current direction could end up making Glade Street look like S. Stratford Rd. on a summer evening. In this regard, there are several West End residents who are participating in this planning project, so we ought to get our 2¢ worth in.

#### MISCELLANY

Other matters voiced at this meeting included parking and traffic congestion around the YMCA during its peak hours -- again, we are urging the Y to urge its jocks to begin their body-building activities in the Brunson School parking lot rather than halfway out in the middle of Sunset, West End, and Glade.

Arts in the Park -- Mark Land will be helping us again this year with summer performances in Grace Court. This has been a particularly well-received offering in the past few years. Do you have any suggestions for participants, especially talented ones who aren't yet into commanding large fees?

Street People-- The program carried out by downtown churches this past winter seems to have generated favorable results and good enough vibes to encourage a repeat performance next winter.

Historic District-- fund raising is the main problem. Do you have any main solutions?

The Bike Race--if you get this newsletter before May 7th, come to the races. If you get it later, we hope you showed up anyway and enjoyed yourself.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be on Tuesday, May 10th, at the Gravlee's house on Clover Street. You are invited to attend. Incidentally, if you have specific concerns about street/sidewalk repairs and traffic problems, submit them to a board member before the June meeting, when we hope to have someone from the City on hand.

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AS PROMISED, THE BIG WEST END WEEK-END CLEAN-UP AND POT-LUCK!

Mark your grubby calendars, folks, for the week-end of May 21st and 22nd. That's the time you can get rid of all that trash, junk and related unspeakables that have been taking up your attics and sheds and have been littering up your yards. The deal is, the City of Winston-Salem will bring trucks by on the 23rd and 24th of May to pick up whatever you have placed on the sides of the street. The little trashy stuff needs to be put in bags and boxes that can be secured at the top. There's nothing unusual about that. The big junky things can just be flat set out on the curb. In either/both case(s), this is about the only time under the new rules that you can put this kind of material out there and be reasonably assured that it'll be picked up promptly, before being blown away, rain-sogged, or ignored as an eyesore.

Some suggestions: containers of trash should not exceed twenty pounds or so; sticks mustn't be longer than 6 feet or thicker than 6 inches, and should be neatly stacked.

Clean the yard, basement, garage, attic --all types of crud will be accepted and picked up.

Clean up the vacant lot next door or across the street. See if your frail neighbors need a helping hand. If you are a frail neighbor, and you need some hauling help, call 724-3982 by May 20th and we'll try to get someone to come by.

Ben Wilson's Boy Scouts will be dredging Peters Creek from one end of Hanes Park to the other on Saturday morning, starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Reynolda Road end. If you want to do something weird, go out and help them clean up the creek. There's great amusement value in that kind of thing.

At 6:00 p.m. on Saturday night, there will be a pot-luck supper for those of us who want to enjoy some good company and pat ourselves on our sore backs. Bring something to eat; the Association will supply the beverages. If it rains, forget about Grace Court, unless you want to crowd into the gazebo. Go next door instead and share supper with your neighbors; a mini-pot-luck is better than none at all. But if it's nice outdoors, come on up to Grace Court and join us.

The West End Association Post Office Box 161 Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102

