

Winston - Salem. Words & Sections.
(The West End).

The West End

By and for the
West End Neighborhood

SEPTEMBER 1984

OH BOY! OH BOY! OH BOY!

No, folks, this is not the name of the latest Japanese Steak House and Sushi Bar to open its doors in the West End. It is merely a ploy (admittedly male chauvinist in origin) to get you, the reader, worked up over the
***** ANNUAL WEST END POT LUCK PICNIC (Notice the 5 stars.)

Did it work? Are you fired up? Are you planning to come to Grace Court Park on the evening of Sunday, September 23rd, at 6:00 P.M. for a couple of pleasant hours with your friends and neighbors rat cheer in the ol' West End? Or have we sufficiently antagonized you with this jerk approach so that you wouldn't show up even if Michael Jackson and his brothers were there to entertain you?

Which they will not be, since they will be making as much money in about five minutes that night as we need to raise to establish the West End as a Historic Preservation District. But that's another story, one of a million here in the Naked City

"Who is this nerd, and why is he writing this way?" Perhaps you're asking that question right now, especially if you are one of the 700 households which has received a complimentary copy of this newsletter -- the purpose of which is twofold: (1) to invite you to the Potluck and (2) to invite you to use the coupon on page three to renew your membership (if you've been enjoying the benefits of membership -- or have been enduring this newsletter -- during 1984) or to join the West End Association at a reduced rate of \$5.00 for the balance of 1984. This is the first year we've offered this reduced rate, in order to seduce you to add your name to the ranks of our membership. There are 179 individuals, families and/or businesses which are members of this social--political community group. Most of them are not as obnoxious as the guy who writes the newsletter, so why don't you get a little bit involved?

Back to the Potluck Picnic -- what you are asked to do is to bring something to eat that you'll share with the other gourmards who will be in attendance. Beverages will be provided by the Association. And this year live entertainment will be provided as well, tho' right now I don't know what the formidable David Speedie will have lined up for us.

OK, I know we lied about the second concert in August at Grace Court. It wasn't really a lie; it was a broken promise, kind of. What happened was, Urban Arts provided both the Matrix Brass Quintet and the gospel group The Healing Force on the same night, August 7th. So we got our money's worth, but all on the same night. For those of you who have been camping out in the park waiting for the second concert, we are deeply apologetic, and we encourage you to return to your homes or at least avail yourselves of the downtown churches once the weather gets cold.

By the way, you'll be able to purchase as many West End T-shirts as you want at that picnic. The cost will something in the neighborhood of five to seven bucks, so bring your life savings and come away wearing the shirt that makes them eat their affluent hearts out in Buena Vista and Sherwood Forest and causes such profound envy in Bermuda Run that the suburbanites are considering renaming their development the Slough of Despond.

NOW, FOR THE USUAL BORING REPORT ABOUT THE MONTHLY MEETING

Zoning: There is a dispute going on between the Firemans and Waites on one side and Robert Hill on the other concerning improvements being made to an outbuilding on the property of the former, improvements designed to expand

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the residential use therein. Hill lives adjacent to the building, which turns out to be in violation of some rear-lot building restrictions. In order for the City to issue building and occupancy permits, there must be a variance granted. The issue is clouded by uncertainty as to whether the use can be grandfathered in, since part of the building has been used more or less continuously as an apartment, maybe. The Inspections Division has not seen it that way and has told Dr. Fireman that a waiver must be obtained.

The Board found this dispute to be particularly painful to resolve, given the limited amount of information available to it, the possibility that the disputants would be able to work out some kind of a compromise, and the fact that the disputants are all long-time West End residents -- this is not one of those defenses against "outside" developers that we often find ourselves making. Therefore, without passing at all on the substance of the case, the Board took the official position that the zoning procedures should be followed according to law, and that it was up to the disputants themselves to either resolve their differences or to line up supporters for their position.

(Editor's note: if you consider this to be wishy-washy, so did the Board, but sometimes there is wisdom to be found in the wish and the wash.)

Zoning II: The YWCA is in the process of applying for permission to extend its hours of daycare. The Board found no problem with this request, so long as the YW will urge its clients to use the parking lots rather than the street to stash their cars, and will be sure to insure an adequate ratio of adult supervisors to little kids. The traffic is pretty fast and crowded around that area, and special precautions are certainly called for to insure the safety of the people there as well as the convenience of the nearby residents.

HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR- Chris Chapman and Liz Gilliam have lined up three homes and two businesses as well as the YWCA as hosts for the tour. We need two more homes, and board members peppered the discussion with suggestions as to appropriate houses to highlight. The Tour will be held on Sunday, December 15th. There is the usual prodigious amount of work to be done, and the following committees have been named:

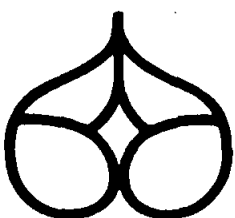
House Operations	Keith & Felice Avery	This
Publicity	Mike Horn	tour
Graphics	Grace Humphreys	has
Treasury	Sam Matthews	been
Refreshments	Dot Wise	remarkably
Clean-up & Close	Ben Wilson	successful.
Hosts	To be announced.	Help do it again!

Treasurer's Report: There were the usual details, plus news that two advertisers had renewed and one new one had joined the group. An expenditure of \$225 was made for 60 T-shirts, that's \$3.75 each, so maybe they'll sell for closer to seven than to five bucks (see page 1's blithering idiot report on the picnic for previous T-shirt announcement). Most noteworthy was the \$1,200 contribution from four donors to the Historic Preservation Fund; that's a lot of money, but there's a lot more still to raise.

Miscellany: There was another discussion about the potential traffic and parking problems that will be created by Wachovia's West End Center. Bill Wise has, since the meeting, spoken with Mr. Ruffin, suggesting, among other things, economic incentives for car-pooling.

The Board voted to make a small contribution to Crimestoppers for the Sykes case (see next page).

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 11th, at 8:00 P.M. at the Chapman's house on Jersey Avenue. You are invited to attend.



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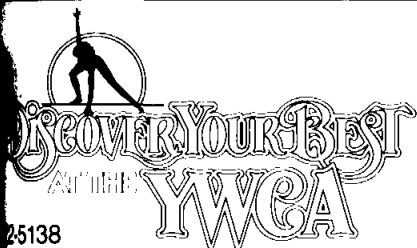
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" _____, 62, who lives on Summit Street, said too many people 'don't care what happens in the neighborhood.'"

--The SENTINEL, Monday, August 13, 1984

This observation was quoted in one of the moving articles written shortly after the murder of Debbie Sykes in our sister downtown residential section, Crystal Towers. There is little we can add to the expressions of shock, grief, fear and bewilderment that have appeared in the newspaper and on the lips of our fellow citizens. It is a tragedy when any life is snuffed out, whether next door, in El Salvador, in Afganistan, in the electric chair, or on a grassy knoll. This one is particularly hard to take, maybe because Debbie Sykes was a lot like us. Things like this make us all a bit more afraid.

You've been reading about Neighborhood Watch in this newsletter for the past two or three years. We have it here in the West End. It doesn't insure our safety nor the security of our possessions. It does provide a framework for people in this neighborhood to structure their concern for the people who live here. It helps us be vigilant without being nosey, to be protective without being paranoid.

The man whose name we elected to omit is not presently a member of our neighborhood association. We've not asked him why -- maybe he has good reasons. Perhaps if he was a member, he'd see that while it is true that too many people don't care what happens in the neighborhood, there are a hell of a lot of people around here who do care very much, and who act on their concern, not only with the nominal payment of dues but also with their toil.

If you are reading this and you are feeling frightened and lonely, please understand that there are people in this neighborhood who share your feelings and who care for you and for your safety. We are all more or less distracted and self-centered, but this is a community you live in, not just a part-of-town.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

We flubbed on three folks who had paid their dues but were left out in last month's membership list. Those people and our 13 new or renewing members are:

Max & Lynn DeBruhl	Frank Frye & Assoc.
Charles & Lynn Grafton	Barry Hager & Bari Schwartz
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SOLOMON'S ANTIQUE COMPANY at 560 North Trade Street is offering a Month-of-September Special to West Enders: a 10% discount on a large selection of new decorator lamps which have already been reduced 35-40% from retail. Solomon's will also give a 40% discount off ticket prices on all wicker items. Stop in and see a fine collection of antiques, plus some new special items of furniture. Open Monday -- Saturday, 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Carpets, vinyl flooring, wallpaper -- you know you can find them at JEWEL INTERIORS, 1033 Burke Street. But did you know that we now sell fabric? Fabric that we can use to decorate your home with beautiful custom-made draperies, spreads and upholstery.

Come by to see our new fabric lines. Our designers will be happy to help you with your next home decorating project.

The WEST END CAFE at Fourth and Brookstown is now open Saturday from 11 A. to 4 P.M. serving its regular selection of soups, salads, deli sandwiches, the best chili in town, imported beer, domestic wine, special hot tea, and the warmth and comfort of a local shop where folks can "set a spell" and enjoy a quality meal and good conversation.

Late Flash! Rob's West End Chili is entered in the second annual N.C. Chili Championship Contest -- drop in and taste the contestant!

CONCRETE OR LIVING TISSUE? -- an inquiry by Wendy, the West End Windbag:

of the above

Which/do you choose to characterize the landscape in the West End?

Which makes up the brains of certain people who destroy lovely old trees before their time has come?

Along with several nearby residents, Wendy was upset terribly to see a crew of idiots cutting down three of the trees on Summit Street next to the Chrysson condominia that are being built. I was about to compliment the builders on how nice the condos were looking, but when those trees went down I was ready to kill. I got in touch with Bill Wise, the president of the West End Association, who checked into it and found out that the developer had nothing to do with the attack on the trees. Instead, it was the City of Winston-Salem (not of Moscow, nor of God) which had gone up there and decided that these trees needed to go. I'm not going to name any names, but my friend Darryl Siefert ought to know better. The trees were not prize-winners, but were living and 30 feet high. The best thing that can be said about this surprise assault was that it could be defended if you really wanted to defend. Some folks, less charitable, would call it short-sighted and stupid.

--Wendy

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