

FIAT 1904

THE GREAT WEST END NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN:

And its success depends on you.

You've read about GWENYS in these pages during the past few months. Well, she arrives here on <u>SATURDAY</u>, MAY 5th, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For those of you resistant to the message, GWENYS is the Great West End Neighborhood Yard Sale, an extravaganza designed to help you create traffic for your own yard sale while raising some funds for the Association's Historic District fund.

The sale will be held in volunteer carports, porches and yards. These sites will be all over the neighborhood. If you don't know where in your area the sale site is, ask around, or set something up in your own front yard. Each seller is responsible for tagging articles with price and initials -- this is very important for the success of any sale, yet it is often overlooked by the novice. So, take the time to tag your wares. Each seller is also responsible for getting his or her own merchandise to the site, and providing their own tables for display.

\*\*\*20% of all proceeds will be collected from each site at 3 p.m. on the day of the sale. This is the money that will go into the Association's fund, so make sure that you hand over the money to an association member and not some clever rat posing as the collector.

In addition, there will be a bake sale, and everyone is encouraged to donate cakes, pies, cookies, bread, pickles, jam, etc. All proceeds will go to the fund.

If you remember who your block captain is, call him or her. Or call Mary Beth Blackwell-Chapman about the bake sale or Dot Wise about the yard sale. Mary Beth's number is 723-7620; Dot's is 761-0906.

You probably have a bunch of junk around the house. Get rid of it, and help out a good cause --yourself-- and another good cause -- the Historic Preservation District Fund. May 5th -- rain or shine!

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# NEW BOARD STARTS TO GET ORGANIZED

The newly installed Board of your Association met on April 10th. The following Committees were set up: Membership, Social, Beautification, Zoning, House Tour, Historic Preservation, and Newsletter. More details about the goals and functions of these committees and their members will appear in upcoming newsletters. If you are interested in any of these tasks, please drop a line to P.O. Box 161, or call Bill Wise, your new leader, at 761-0906.

Julia Wilson serves as an informal "real estate clearinghouse" in your neighborhood. If you are aware of houses or apartments that are available for purchase or rent, in addition to using whatever realtors, friends and other word-of-mouth types you know, consider calling Julia at 727-1110. She knows lots of people, who over the years have indicated an interest in this neighborhood. This is service that costs you nothing but a phone call, and it might help you get in touch with a potential West End resident.

Neighborhood Watch is as useful as ever, if the experience of nearby neighborhoods is any indication. Apparently, there was a rash of housebreakings recently in the area near 1st Street, between Hawthorn and Five Points. The West End itself continues to experience unwanted visits by those who prefer to obtain merchandise by illegal means. Now that it's getting warm and houses are opening up, let's remember to keep a concerned eye on our neighbor's lands and chattels.

(Board meeting discussion continued inside)

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TREES (Continued)-- HOW TO GET THOSE BABIES IN THE GROUND (Seminar) He stressed that when planting new trees, you need first of all to buy good reliable stock that meets American Nursery Standards. (For example, a willow oak of 2 - 2½ inch caliper should be 12 - 14 ft.) Second, you need to plant the tree properly, being especially careful <u>not to plant it too deeply</u>. That kills more trees than anything else, he said.

Twenty percent of the root ball should be above grade so that the feeder roots can get oxygen; the ground directly below the root ball should be firm. It is more important to work the soil to the sides of the root ball, for that is where the feeder roots grow. It is also important not to mulch too heavily (no more than 2 - 3 inches) because the mulch can cut off necessary oxygen.

Gould also discussed some common misconceptions concerning trees:

1. that trees cannot exist close to a

dwelling -- WRONG! In fact, he said, a tree can live quite comfortably within inches of the outside wall of a house. Roots do not invade basements ("There is nothing in your basement a tree wants.") and limbs grow away from the structure toward the light.

2. that a hollow tree is dying and needs to be taken down -- WRONG! A hollow tree in fact may have many good and beautiful years left, depending upon whether the cambium layer around the perimeter is intact.

3. that topping a tree improves its health and looks -- WRONG! In fact, topping a tree cuts off its main leader (the central shaft) and thus damages the tree's growth. The tree will never regain its natural branching and will always look "chopped". Pruning, he said, should be minimal; it should consist entirely of taking off dead branches and one limb that crosses another.

Your Mature trees may in truth have more value than your houses, he said, because the houses can be replaced more easily. Thus you need to be sure a tree is dying before you remove it. The first signs to watch for are dying branch tips, the leaves becoming smaller. Even if you notice these things, however, he warned that it is still wise to get expert advice before removing a major tree. Call the N. C. Cooperative Extension Service or county agent for free consultation. (Do not call a tree removal company; they will be happy to tell you your tree must be taken out, as are some landscape architects.) Save the tree if you can. We are drawn to trees more than most of us realize, he said, and when they are gone, we feel their loss.

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(Board meeting discussion -- continued from page 1)

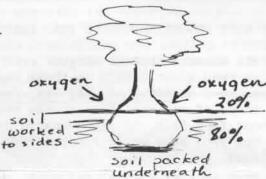
Concern was expressed at the meeting over the development habits of Jules Smythe, who owns several tracts in the West End. Mr.Smythe has converted several buildings along 1st Street from single family to multi-family use, and according to people who have kept an eye on these conversions, the appearance of the properties has usually shown marked improvement. The problem is that Mr. Smythe frequently does not follow legal procedures to obtain timely permits, variances, and conformity with parking requirements -- at least not without a hassle. From time to time in these pages you have read about zoning and devel-

opment conflicts. Your Association is concerned whenever there is evidence that anyone-- whether "outside" developers or long-term residents --are ignoring the clear and not-so-clear mandates of the laws. While we appreciate the visible improvements that often accompany change, we must insist that the procedural and substantive laws governing zoning must be obeyed.





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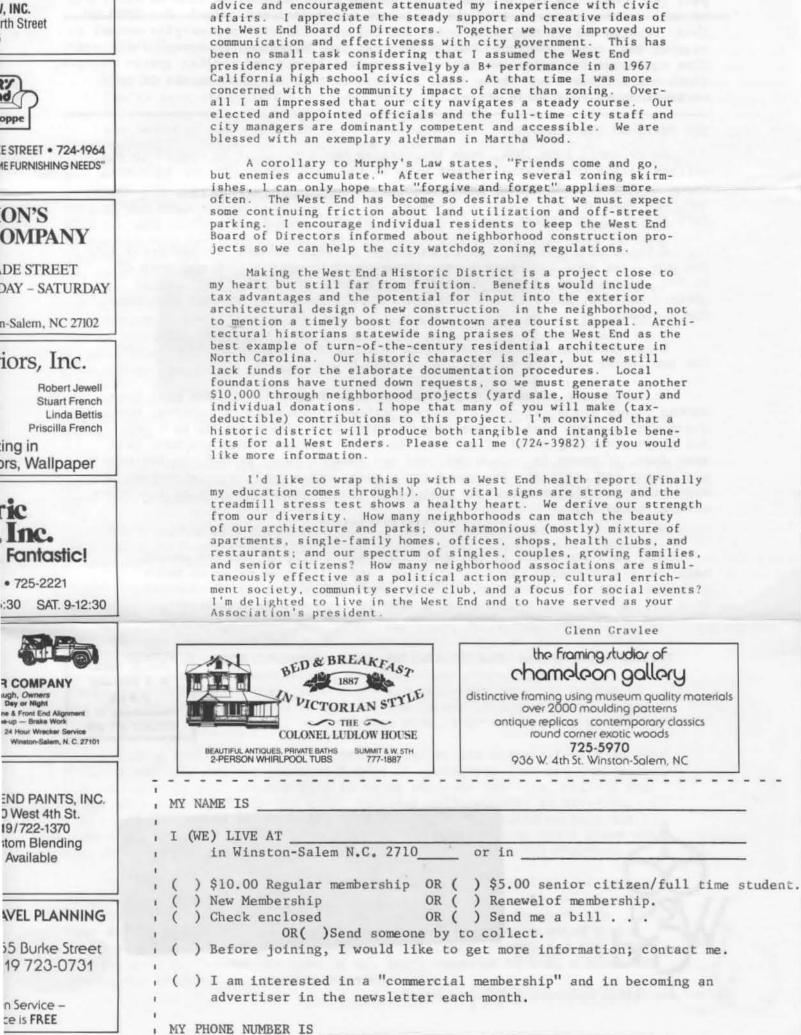
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WHAT FOLLOWS IS KINDA LIKE WHEN MISS AMERICA TELLS THE NATION "FAREWELL" ON THE TELEVISION. . . TAKE IT AWAY, DR. G: Passing the Presidential baton to Bill Wise evokes feelings of satisfaction and relief. I owe my thanks to many who have helped me, but particularly to such West Enders as Bill Harper, Bill Gibson, Warren Sparrow, and Rence Callahan. Their patient advice and encouragement attenuated my inexperience with civic affairs. I appreciate the steady support and creative ideas of the West End Board of Directors. Together we have improved our communication and effectiveness with city government. This has been no small task considering that I assumed the West End presidency prepared impressively by a B+ performance in a 1967 California high school civics class. At that time I was more concerned with the community impact of acne than zoning. Over-all I am impressed that our city navigates a steady course. Our elected and appointed officials and the full-time city staff and city managers are dominantly competent and accessible. We are blessed with an exemplary alderman in Martha Wood.

A corollary to Murphy's Law states, "Friends come and go, but enemies accumulate." After weathering several zoning skirm-ishes, I can only hope that "forgive and forget" applies more often. The West End has become so desirable that we must expect some continuing friction about land utilization and off-street parking. I encourage individual residents to keep the West End Board of Directors informed about neighborhood construction pro-ients on you can belo the city untehdor provine resultions. jects so we can help the city watchdog zoning regulations.

Making the West End a Historic District is a project close to my heart but still far from fruition. Benefits would include tax advantages and the potential for input into the exterior architectural design of new construction in the neighborhood, not to mention a timely boost for downtown area tourist appeal. Archi-tectural historians statewide sing praises of the West End as the best example of turn-of-the-century residential architecture in North Carolina. Our historic character is clear, but we still lack funds for the elaborate documentation procedures. Local foundations have turned down requests, so we must generate another S10,000 through neighborhood projects (yard sale. House Tour) and individual donations. I hope that many of you will make (tax-deductible) contributions to this project. I'm convinced that a historic district will produce both tangible and intangible bene-fits for all West Enders. Please call me (724-3982) if you would like more information. Archi-

I'd like to wrap this up with a West End health report (Finally my education comes through!). Our vital signs are strong and the treadmill stress test shows a healthy heart. We derive our strength from our diversity. How many neighborhoods can match the beauty of our architecture and parks; our harmonious (mostly) mixture of apartments, single-family homes, offices, shops, health clubs, and restaurants; and our spectrum of singles, couples, growing families, and senior citizens? How many neighborhood associations are simul-taneously effective as a political action group, cultural enrich-ment society, community service club, and a focus for social events? I'm delighted to live in the West End and to have served as your Association's president.

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**Glenn** Gravlee

# FEATURED ADVERTISERS FOR MAY 1984:

THE TILE SOURCE, 1184 Burke Street, is one of the Triad's major ceramic tile outlets. It opened as a display shop for contractors and their customers, and has expanded to include tile supplies (grout, tools, etc.) and a base of wholesale and retail customers. The Tile Source has just introduced an additional line which includes hand-painted, custom-color tiles (4 X 4 and 6 X 6 inch sizes) and a line of murals up to 3 X 3 feet. Regular inventory includes foreign and domestic tiles plus silicon products for mildew and soap film control. And always, advice based on first-hand knowledge of the tile trade!

It's Spring! You are ready for trips to the beach and vacation fun, but is your <u>car</u> ready? Now is the time to get SPAUGH MOTOR COMPANY at 1160 W. First St. to make getting there part of the fun, more economical and safer! For \$300.00 (body repairs extra) they will paint the car with factory-type acrylic enamel to restore that total showroom look. Spaugh has the "permanent employee" skill and fine equipment for effective tune-ups, air-conditioner and cooling system repairs, front-end alignment and brake jobs. 30 years at this location speaks of good workmanship at reasonable prices.

#### THE STATE OF THE TREASURY:

As of April 10th,1984, your Association had a total of \$6,269.21 in its coffers. Aside from a small amount kept at the post office for our bulk mail deposit, these funds are in bank checking and savings accounts. At this point, the fund balances are Historic Preservation District \$4,549.98, Grace Court Park \$53.80, Lucy Parker Fund \$166.29 and General Fund \$1,499.14.

A total of \$2,864.14 came in as income between January 1st and April 10th. The big items were donations to the Grace Court Fund of \$1,200 and dues of \$1,080. Advertising in your newsletter accounted for another \$390, while other donations, sales of t-shirts and interest earned on savings accounted for the rest.

Major expenses were for improvements to Grace Court of \$1,993.89, and for newsletter printing and mailing of \$638.50.

While we have raised considerable money from dues during the past four months, there are still over a hundred "allegedly dues-paying members" out there who have not paid for the 1984 calendar year. There should be a red dot on your mailing label if our records do not indicate that you have paid your dues. If there is such a dot, and you haven't paid, PLEASE use the coupon inside and catch up. Ten bucks isn't much, and a healthy neighborhood association easily enhances the quality of your residential life by ten bucks, several times over.

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May is a big month in the West End. GWENYS will be fun and should help raise much-needed historic district funds; the bike races at Hanes Park are a special attraction offering beauty and a display of strength. It's not too late for you to plant a tree or say hello to a newcomer. The next board meeting is Tuesday, May 8th at 2B Announced's house.

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