

# The West Ender

By and for the  
West End Neighborhood

March 1993

## BUILDING BRIDGES

Spans over I-40 . . . coalitions all over town -- this year the West End finds itself in the business of helping to build bridges.

For example, the elimination of Hawthorne Curve means there'll be some changes made to the southern boundary of our neighborhood. We've been told that folks in the West End, West Highlands and Ardmore are going to have a say in what happens next. If you're interested in joining a committee of the West End Association dedicated to voicing our ideas and concerns, call Wanda Merschel, Billye Keith Jones, or Bobby Patterson.

If you're interested in serving on the Social, Membership, Historic District, Crime Watch, Grace Court Festival and/or Newsletter Committees, call any of the Board members. Their names and telephone numbers were prominently displayed in last month's newsletter, which, of course, you keep prominently displayed on your bulletin board in the kitchen. No?

What we're asking you to do here is become committed to making the West End, Winston-Salem and Forsyth County into healthy communities in which you, your kids, and your grand-kids will want to live. If you can't get committed, at least get involved. (You probably know the difference: a chicken gets involved in a ham-&-eggs breakfast. A pig gets committed.) Your writer recently spent an exhilarating half-hour with a woman who has gotten committed; she serves as a foster parent for little kids, including at least one crack-baby -- she's white, he's black, it makes no difference.

Here are a couple of easy, pleasant, undemanding ways to get involved. On Tuesday, March 30th, people all over town will celebrate "Hope Du Jour." It's not hard: you go out and eat at one (or more!) participating restaurants, and know that 10% of what you spend will be donated to Crisis Control Ministry. Crisis Control has become Forsyth County's largest provider of emergency relief for individuals and families with urgent needs for food, fuel, clothing, rent and medicine. When someone comes to your front door asking for help, and you're not sure how to respond, one kind thing you can do is to refer them to Crisis Control (another is to direct them to the Samaritan Soup Kitchen).

Here's another easy one. West Ender Peter Perret conducts the prestigious Winston-Salem Piedmont Triad Symphony. West Ender Bob Listokin plays a sweet clarinet. Other symphony instrumentalists live among you, as well as seven singers in the Symphony Chorale. During April or May, subscribe to the Symphony's 1993-94 season and come hear some of your neighbors make beautiful music together. Symphony orchestras help attract corporate employers; corporate employers provide lots of jobs. Lots of jobs help make communities strong. Get it?

Finally, may I suggest you participate in activities which, on their face, might appear contradictory. For example, get busy with Neighborhood Crime Watch in the West End, and at the same time become a volunteer at the Salvation Army Boys' Club or at Big Brothers-Big Sisters. The mix will enrich your life and befuddle your friends.

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**Innisfree Plant Farm** -- Bill Warlick, a Piedmont Horticulturalist for 25 years, continues to develop a "Pet Project" inventory of specimen size, container grown, hardy perennials. Hybrid day lilies, astilbe, hosta and more! Thirty fully developed new varieties this year alone. All available at the pot field just off County Club Rd. near Silas Creek Pkwy. More than 1000 day lilies and too many of the smaller plants to count. Call Bill or his wife Cindy for directions and a "good time" to wander among the pots to select additions to your per project. Phone 765-4906.

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Notice: the April Meeting of the West End Association will take place at Billye Keith Jones's house (614 West End Blvd.) on Tuesday evening, April 6th, at 7:30. (Don't tell Wendy.) The May meeting will be on the 4th, tentatively at either the YWCA or St. Paul's. The June meeting will be on June 1st at the Gibsons' (1315 Brookstown). The July meeting . . .

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**BOARD MEETS IN RECORD TIME -- STUFF GETS DONE ANYWAY!!!**

Your Association's March meeting took less than 70 minutes to do its business. President and hostess Wanda Merschel welcomed the new members. The Secretary then reviewed the By-laws as they pertain to attendance and dues-paying responsibilities, as well as to voting rights. Wanda then woke up the seventeen people who noded off during that review. She proceeded to hammer together committee assignments, which was not too difficult, since the people in attendance were willing and ready to volunteer, and the people not in attendance were easily subject to be assigned to the most egregiously stinky projects.

The Board resolved to put on the Third Annual Festival in Grace Court in September, again in loose conjunction with the Twin City Track Club's road race. We decided that the Association itself would sell food and drink, in order to enhance the fund-raising potential of the event. Also, we still have entirely too many T-shirts left over from last year, so expect to see an aggressively huckstered display of those items.

Historic District status has energized some folks into creating plans for a "West End Walking Tour." [One wag suggested the first such tour should start at the door of his car and proceed 35 steps to the City Beverage Company's beer coolers, and go straight back.] The effort to select and produce unique neighborhood street signage is moving ahead. The Neighborhood Watch Committee was allocated up to \$100 to spend on laminated cards to help speed accurate communication among neighbors. George & Blake Jacobs were elected as Board alternates. Missy Vaughan (who was at the meeting), Dottie Wise and Becky Gibson (who were not) volunteered to spearhead the plaque and tree-planting in Grace Court this Spring in honor of Barbara Smitherman.

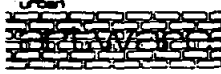
After the meeting, Wendy, the West End Windbag, berated her neighbors for allowing the West End to become a mess. "I can't go outside without having to trip over trash. It seems like nobody takes any pride anymore. It's enough to make you want to pack up and move to Bermuda Village." Her listeners hung their heads in shame and promised not to tell Wendy where the next meeting would be held.

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