

# The West End

By and for the  
West End Neighborhood

October 1993

AS IN LAKE WOBEGON, IT WAS A QUIET MONTH.

In recent days, the "public" life of the West End neighborhood has, as enjoyed a kind of laid-back, uneventful Indian summer of the collective soul. The most important event in the neighborhood happened to one of our readers, the person holding this newsletter. Yes, dear reader, I'm taking about you. The West End Association hereby offers you space to begin to chronicle, in 25 words or less (or more), that lovely/curious/bittersweet/exciting thing that just happened in your life: \_\_\_\_\_

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YET, IN ITS OWN QUIET WAY, THE WEST END CONTINUES TO BE A PLACE WHERE, FRANKLY SCARLETT, PEOPLE DO GIVE A DAMN.

And a gratifying number of damn-givers came to the October board meeting, held for the first time in history at the YMMMMMMMMMMMMMCA. Included in the group were newcomers who commute all the way to Elon College and High Point (is this a great place to live, or what?), and an 8-month old kid named Jacob who brought his Dad.

Yeah, the Festival at Grace Court was fun and all, but, let's cut to the bottom line -- did we make any money? You betcha! According to the spokesman for fleets of potentially superfluous middle managers charged with the responsibility of seeing that their individual revenue-contribution centers did indeed contribute sufficient revenues [pause for breath], the food dealers, T-shirt vendors, yard sale hucksters, and exhibitor kick-back enforcers brought in over \$2,000 and produced about \$1,800 in profit. There'll be no down-sizing at WestEnd, Inc. during the next quarter, so you guys (namely Billy Keith Jones and Missy Vaughan) can relax.

And John Bills, builder of a mini-gazebo exhibit space and creator of a special venison chili (bar-be-queed Bambi?), along with his faithful band J. Merschel and the Sparrows, made \$67 for the March of Dimes at Tanglewood and lots of new friends for our neighborhood.

Wylie Yarborough reported that the West End Garden Club is off to a energetic season, with more than 50 members (of both genders, which apparently is unusual if not unheard of in these parts). The club has taken more than two dozen orders for the \$40 ceramic "historic house" plaques designed by the late Chris Yarborough and Ron Propst. Plans for events at Reynolda House in October, the YMCA in November and the annual Christmas Party in December are well under way. The Club has been encouraged to remain active in the care and feeding of Grace Court.

Your secretary relayed a report from the WSPD that "two rapes which occurred in the West End area have been solved" with the arrest of a

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**"ACTING LOCALLY" -- Continued**

suspect, who is presently in prison serving time on another charge. Bud Goldsmith, co-Chairman of our Neighborhood Watch effort, affirmed that the police seem to be making an energetic effort to respond to calls and protect our neighborhood from those who would victimize us. Woven into this report was thoughtful debate concerning whether, to what extent, and with what particularity this newsletter -- which is circulated outside the West End as well as throughout our neighborhood -- should report on the difficulties with crime that we have to cope with. If there was a consensus, it was to remind readers that, nowadays, no community is free from predators, and the West End shares a common problem with virtually every other open (read: un-walled and un-patrolled) neighborhood in America.

As befits our on-going connection with other communities in Winston-Salem, Inez Davis, an Ardmore resident who belongs to our Association, presented a petition to help save two late-19th-century Queen Anne houses owned by Home Moravian Church in Old Salem from imminent demolition, or at least to provide time for public debate. Inez told the group that, apparently, several people have made proposals for adaptive re-use of these houses, but the powers-that-be want space for more parking lots.

The President relayed word from the Historic District Commission that a restoration specialist billing himself as "The Paint Doctor" is coming to town in October. No one in the group signed up for a house call. Wanda also reported that the Commission would be installing new members (including 3 West Enders!) in October and obtaining public comment on the West End design review guidelines; she hopes the guidelines will be ratified in November.

Wanda also encouraged folks to attend a public hearing the next evening at Brunson School on the I-40 bridge projects, especially as they concern the 4th Street bridge and the opportunity to create a mini-park at the edge of the West End once the Hawthorne Curve is straightened.

The annual neighborhood Christmas Party is tentatively set for the first Friday in December, at 6:30, at a festive location to be announced. The party will follow tree-decorating in Grace Court. It's always great fun, and you're invited!!!

Next month's meeting will involve a presentation of the evolving Unified Development Ordinance (i.e. zoning law). See notice on page 3 for time and place.

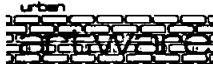
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Notice: the November Meeting of the West End Association will take place at the Gibson's house (which might be clean, for a change) on Tuesday, November 2nd, at 7:30 p.m. There will not be a regular December meeting, instead, come to the Christmas Party on the first Friday.

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Sherwood Anderson, *Winesburg, Ohio* (1919)

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