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West End Birds

In this writing I will describe the remaining 2 of the 4 common West End woodpeckers. The calls of all 4 are rhythmic trills or rattles. The yellow-bellied sapsucker, *sphyrapicus varius*, has the usual black and white zebra markings, with a bright red cap and red chin. We can forget the yellow-belly part; it's not easy to see that faint wash of tannish-yellow. It is Carolina-wren size. This bird is a drinker. Drilling a horizontal row of holes to bleed sap, it laps the liquid with its long tongue rather than sucking it. So the sapsucker is really a sap-LAPPER; just as the red-bellied is really a red-headed woodpecker. The sapsucker's call is a mew, very like a cat. It comes to us in the winter half of the ear. The familiar flicker, *colaptes auratus*, is a large handsome tawny-gold and black bird marked with red on the gray nape. It sports a neat black mustache. Its distinctive cry of "wicka-wicka-wicka," sometimes "flicka-flicka," gives the bird its name. Unlike other tree-dwelling woodpeckers, it will also hunt on the ground, being especially fond of ants. Any bird who eats ants is definitely my friend. All these birds are easy for West Enders to spot as they feed on our wonderful collection of trees. A glance out a second-floor window and a brilliant red-bellied or a small downy might be seen right at eye level.

ANN LISTOKIN

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WEST END TO HAVE SEWER AND WATER REHABILITATED

In the near future, the City/County Utilities Division will begin replacing water lines and rehabilitating sewer pipes in the West End neighborhood. This project will replace the aging infrastructure in our area. Not all areas of the West End will be affected. (A map of the areas to be affected and more information on this project can be found at www.historicwestend.org.)

The West End Association will try to have a city official attend a future WEA meeting in order to discuss some issues surrounding this project. One important issue might be this: if the Utilities Division has difficulty making a connection near your home, you might be asked to hire a plumber to run new lines into the street.

If you are concerned about this major renovation and how it might affect you, feel free to attend upcoming WEA meetings on the first Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Tise House as well as West End Board meetings on the third Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. at 1224 Glade Street.

The West End Association in January will meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm at
The Cicero Tise House
952 West Fourth Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

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President's Message

To the Home Owners, West End Holiday Home Tour Volunteers and Residents of the West End that made the 2006 West End Holiday Home Tour a Resounding Success:

We couldn't have done it without you—the homeowners who graciously opened their homes to 400 strangers; the unpaid volunteers who put in countless hours of work over an extended period of time; and a community of citizens and merchants who supported the effort. We had a lot of events to compete with this year, and we were not blessed with a big feature article in the paper as we were last time. Nonetheless, it looks like close to 400 people came to see the West End community at its best. I for one have heard nothing negative. At least four different couples that I know of spent the entire four hours out there touring – and loved it! I made it to every tour site and boy, was I impressed!

A special thanks goes out to Stephanie Abdon, our Home Tour Chair, who not only had to straw boss this event this year but also had to survive a significant birthday in the midst of it (you know, one ending in a zero!). More extra thanks to the Campbells, Susan and Jack, who did much of the heavy lifting of organizing people and putting the tour into print; to the Goldsmiths, Barbara and Bud, for a fabulous party (among other tasks!); to Toni Philips for herding the house captain cats and donating her house for the party (hope it sold, Toni!); to Warren Sparrow as "Secretary of Transportation"; to Eric Elliott for acting as our Historian in Charge; to the Russell agency for donating the creative services . . . I could go on and on but I won't, so forgive me if I did not single you out. I think the results speak for themselves, folks. I've now seen four of these tours, and I'd say the quality of the homes was the most consistent I've seen so far. So, it's finally and mostly to *you*, the brave homeowners and business owners, that I extend the greatest thanks once again. Bravo!

This event was not really about fund-raising; it was about building community, a sense of sharing and, most of all, celebrating a neighborhood and its residents with a passion that was hard to miss on Sunday. This event passes into history, enriching our heritage as all the others before did, but the glow of neighborhood pride should last quite some time. . . and in 2007 be on display again when the West End Arts fest #3 hits Grace Court! (More on that later.) For now let's let everyone take a breath and a bow – you've all earned it!

Steven Joiner

A BIG THANK YOU FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE HOMES TOUR

As Chair of the 2006 Historic West End Holiday Homes Tour, I would like to express my appreciation for all the help and support I received from West Enders. I have heard so many good things about the tour that I barely recall any stress or anxiety I felt during the planning! I also cannot take full credit, as so many people worked together to make the tour a success (not to mention Mother Nature providing a beautiful day!). In addition to our outstanding Board, I would like to thank the homeowners, house captains, and the wonderful volunteers who helped make the day run smoothly. I would especially like to thank the following people for taking charge of special projects: Jack and Susan Campbell; Toni and David Phillips; Bud and Barbara Goldsmith; Steve Joiner and Nora Garver; Warren Sparrow; Kathleen Ramich; Tom Pittman and Eric Elliott. I would especially like to thank our new neighbors, the Russell Agency, for doing such an amazing job with creative services. Let's keep this enthusiasm going for ArtsFest and the next tour of homes!

Stephanie N. Abdon



Remember that the Historical Resources Commission meets the first Wednesday of each month at 4:00 P.M., at Bryce A. Stuart Municipal Building, Third Floor Conference Room, 100 East First Street, Winston-Salem.

Also, please remember, the Board meetings are open to West End members and are held the third Tuesday of each month, at 7:00 p.m. 1224 Glade Street.

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