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RiverRun is looking for Volunteers!

The time has come to reach out and recruit all of you wonderful volunteers for the 12th Annual RiverRun International Film Festival! This year's Festival will be an exciting one with 11 full days, new venues, additional special events and expanded film categories.

You can now sign up on-line to volunteer for April 14-25, 2010. Please go to www.riverrunfilm.com, click on the VOLUNTEER menu option, which routes you directly to the sign-up form. From there you can either sign up on-line or download the PDF form, fill it out and mail it to our new office.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. We greatly appreciate your support!
 Susan Campbell and Jane McKim

Attention West Enders with Green Thumbs!

Spring is in the air. This means it's time to start thinking about the wonderful community garden that Zack Elliott created last year as part of an Eagle Scout Project. If you would like to participate in the planning and the planting, please contact the West End Neighborhood Association by email at thewestender@yahoo.com or by phone at 336-624-6945. This will be a fun project for neighbors of all ages.



West End Wants Your Feedback

The West End Association invites guests to speak on topics of interest to our neighborhood. During the last year, guest speakers at our bi-monthly meetings provided presentations on how to insulate homes from the ground up, refurbish vintage windows and make your own garden mulch. What topics do YOU suggest for West End meetings?

Please email the editor at jessicaroseflorence@gmail.com with ideas and for more information.

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The West End Association Web Site
 We are actively working on making the West End Neighborhood Web site even better. Please visit www.historicwestend.org for information about our neighborhood's history, maps, links and membership information.
West End Listserv is a Yahoo Group
 To be added to this group, please send an e-mail to thewestender@yahoo.com.

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The West Ender

By and For the West End Neighborhood

March 2010

<http://www.historicwestend.org>

West End Babysitting Co-Operative

Upcoming Events

March

March 3 — Historic Resources Commission mtg @ 4pm in Stuart Municipal Bldg (5th Fl)

March 9 — Board Meeting

April

April 3rd—Easter Egg Hunt in Grace Court
 April 14 — West End Assoc. Mtg
 April 14-25 — RiverRun International Film Festival

Once upon a time (circa 1980) in the leafy, magical community of West End, there lived about 20 families who had young children. But they were sad because they couldn't find dependable babysitters and they didn't know each other very well. And, lo, there appeared a fairy godmother, from the faraway city of Charlotte, who bestowed on them the gift of a babysitting co-op and they lived happily ever after, or most of them did.

Ok, so we fast forward to 2010 and, once again, the still leafy, still magical West End has many parents who would love to recreate the co-op idea. Here are some basic suggestions gleaned from the memories of the (aging and therefore somewhat undependable) original group:

- A point system was used, and the points were owed to the co-op not an individual
- If you had one child and you took the child to the a co-op member's house, it was 2 points an hour; if you had 2 children it was 3 points an hour; 3 children 4 points, etc.
- If you had one child and a member came to your house, it was 3 points an hour; if you had 2 children it was 4 points an hour, etc.
- There was a book-system used then but now it could be done online. This duty was shared by members on a rotating basis as a way to keep up with points
- The system used the honor system, with the person doing the sitting calling the points in to the person responsible for the "book". It should be much easier with an online system.

The secret of the success of the West End Babysitting Coop was the social part of it. Once a month the families would gather for a potluck with the children. It was either at a member's house or, in good weather, at Hanes Park. We used that occasion to read out the points so folks could keep up with their status. That is, whether they owed points or whether they were owed points. Parents and children got to know each other really well and that was one of the primary joys of the co-op.

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We each had a list of the other members with telephone numbers and addresses to call around to find someone who was available to sit at a particular time. (It seems difficult to believe that folks didn't have e-mail addresses then but we were in the dark ages.) There were additional embellishments such as "superpoints" which were used for week-ends but no one seems to remember the details. We, the aging, will leave it to you youngsters to work that one out.

Now, a closing word from Wendy, the West End Windbag, whose legendary column in the West Ender in the eighties made her a household word and almost won her a Pulitzer or was it a howitzer.....

"Well, I was sort of everybody's Official Grandma back in those days, and it pleased me to no end to see all those young people in the midst of their reproductive years helping to actively raise each others' children. Those kids turned out pretty well, and all the parents can take credit for it . . . except for those folks that up and moved away leaving 77 points in the hole. Anyhow, as I used to tell 'em over a big chunk of Boston Cream Pie at the potlucks, this here is a dang good way to ward off existential angst."

Wendy, the West End Windbag
 Writing from her apartment at the Waikiki Assisted Living Center

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A Letter from the President...

Dear West End Neighbors,

I was recently elected to the office of president of the West End Association and I would like to introduce myself to the neighbors who I have not yet had the opportunity to meet.

I was looking for a house in the Winston-Salem area about ten years ago. I had been looking on and off for about six months but none of the houses that I visited ever felt "just right." That is when I saw a home in the West End listed on the Internet. It showed that it had been listed for about a year and hadn't sold as of yet. I could not see the front of the house in the picture in the advertisement as it was covered with overgrowth, but it sounded nice and I knew the area. I didn't have any real hopes but figured it couldn't hurt, so I gave the listing to my agent and we set up an appointment to view the house.

I fell in love the first moment that I walked in the door and knew that this was to be my home. I bought the house, then began the process of moving in. On the second day, my neighbors came over with some of the best bean and bacon soup that I have ever tasted saying, "Welcome to the neighborhood." I knew at that point it was not only a charming home it was a great neighborhood filled with the special people I have come to know and care for over the years. That is how I see West End and the West Enders who live here.

My goal over the next two years, as the West End Association president, is to get those that live in the neighborhood to get to know their neighbors and become more involved in the West End Association. I wish to thank you for allowing me to serve and I fervently hope that I am up to the task.

Timo Collins, WEA President

2010 West End Board:

Timo Collins – President	Daniel & Tracy Yohannes	Lynn Linette
Clare Fader – Vice-President	Stan Hill	Andrew Leslie
Erika von Isenburg - Secretary	Toni & Dave Phillips	Meg Zulick
Ellis Boyle – Treasurer	Kristin & Alton Absher	

April's West End Meeting is for YOU!

The West End Association's April 2010 Meeting is about you. Come to the YMCA's West End Room at 7:00 pm. on the second Tuesday of April - 04.13.2010. This is your chance to get involved in all the fun. Meet, network, and if you so choose, sign up for our community garden, upcoming socials and our bi-annual Christmas Holiday Home Tour.

Updates:

YMCA

Construction of the new elevator at the William G White, Jr YMCA will be completed on March 1st. This will be a wonderful addition to the YMCA.

Baseball Stadium

The Winston-Salem Dash minor league baseball team and BB&T Corp. have signed a 15-year agreement to name the team's new stadium BB&T Ballpark. The first game at BB&T Ballpark will be the home opener for the Dash on April 13 at 7 p.m

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The West End Association's 2010 Annual Membership Drive

It is time to renew your membership the West End Association. The association relies on membership dues to pay for the many events in the neighborhood, as well as sponsorships of events in and around the West End. Membership is \$20/household and is effective for the 2010 calendar year, January-December. Dues can also be paid online from the West End Web Page using PayPal. <http://www.historicwestend.org/membership.htm>

This year, members will receive 2 West End Membership Cards per household, once they have paid their annual membership fee. The membership card will be good for discounts at West End restaurants and businesses. Please read your monthly newsletter to find out where the discount cards can be used each month. We are excited to offer the Membership cards to our neighbors. Please include your mailing address in the form below so that you membership cards can be mailed to you.

Please make your check out to the West End Association and put "membership" in the memo line. Your \$20 membership fee pays for everyone in your household. Please fill out the Membership Form below and include it with your payment. We have provided self-addressed envelopes for you convenience. You may also pay your annual dues at General West End Association meetings.

Your information will not be shared with anyone outside of the West End Association

West End Membership Form

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

___ Please add me to the West End listserv ___ I am already on the **NEW** listserv

- Number of people in your household: Adults _____ Children under 18: _____
- Please indicate if you are interested in working in helping in the following areas:**
- 2010 West End Holiday Home Tour
 - Communications: Web site/newsletter contributions, newsletter delivery
 - Neighborhood Watch: Block Captains/participants
 - Traffic Committee: Traffic Calming/ Problem solving
 - Social Committee: Easter Egg Hunt, 4th of July Picnic, Fall Festival,
 - Neighborhood Beautification: Quarterly Clean-ups, Garden Club

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