



The West Ender

By and for the West End Neighborhood

NOVEMBER 2013

historicwestend.org

Upcoming Events

November
ICE SKATING STARTS AT
LJVM COLISEUM

November 4
LEAF COLLECTION BEGINS
(see article)

November 5
VOTE
(see article inside)

November 9
HANES PARK STREAM
CLEANUP
9am-Noon
(see article inside)

November 9-10
FRIENDS OF CENTRAL
LIBRARY BOOK SALE
660 W. Fifth St.
9am-5pm Saturday
1-5pm Sunday

November 12
West End Association Mtg
7pm
YMCA West End Room

November 15-30
OLD SALEM CANDLELIGHT
TOURS
Fridays & Saturdays
oldsalem.org

November 16-17
Piedmont Craftsmen Fair
Benton Convention Center
piedmontcraftsemen.org

November 18 & 19
Peters Creek Initiative Mtg
6 pm
(see article inside)

A Big Thanks to Wanda Merschel

- by George Bryan

Wanda and John Merschel moved to the West End in 1989. Wanda quickly became involved in the historic preservation of the West End taking over the WE Association presidency from Bill Suggs. Chris Chapman had helped initiate the historic preservation overlay and Wanda was key in driving this process to the point it was accepted by the (then) Aldermen. Through this process Wanda learned the importance of neighbors, the fun of interacting with friends around issues, and the politics that would enable her to run for City Council in 1997 and win.

During her Council career she has been a consistent advocate for downtown. And it is during this period that downtown has become vibrant. Perhaps the earliest move was allocating sidewalk funds to redesign the walkways downtown and planting of trees there. It hasn't been easy. The baseball stadium was a tough development. Annexation of areas of Forsyth that definitely benefited from the downtown was also very controversial. She has also had to constantly help the City understand how important the West End is to the downtown as a neighborhood providing stability and people to use downtown. Her advocacy has extended far beyond the West End with many zoning issues and challenges in other neighborhoods. A couple of these included the deteriorating lakes in Town and Country and a communication tower off of Reynolda.

Wanda has helped the West End remain true to its core over the years. Her leadership with other Council members on the YM destruction of homes is a lesson we as a neighborhood should never forget (for new neighbors – the wedge of land next to the YM on West End Boulevard used to be



homes and is still, thankfully, zoned that way). She also brokered the written agreement about any changes in Hanes Park that will hopefully continue to protect our Park as developments are proposed. Early in her tenure she protected our neighborhood and others from a residential program that was being poorly run (FIRST to those that remember). She also supported the Tree Ordinance, Noise Ordinance (keeps those dumpsters from being emptied at 3 AM) and facilitated the neighborhood issues with Burke St. crime and noise. There have also been numerous zoning issues which have made saving and restoring homes in this neighborhood possible.

Wanda and John will continue to live in the neighborhood and I am sure they will advise and advocate for their neighborhood as long as they are here. The City has honored her by renaming the Civic Plaza – Merschel Plaza. Thank you Wanda for your service.

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VOTE! Tuesday, November 5th is Election Day.

- by Mark Lively

There is an important municipal general election on November 5th. West End residents have two important choices on their ballot. We will elect our mayor and our City Council representative for the Northwest Ward. Our City Council representative is a very important advocate for our neighborhood. Voter turnout was very poor for the recent primary elections. Every vote counts so don't be a "No Show." VOTE!

In spite of the voter identification law passed recently in Raleigh, identification is NOT required for registered voters who have voted in past elections. If you are a first time voter who has registered to vote but have not yet provided verifiable ID or if you register on the same day as the election (still allowed), you will be required to show proof of residence. Please check this web site for details of voter identification requirements: www.forsyth.cc/Elections/Documents/onestop_registering.pdf.

The Peters Creek Community Initiative Meeting

- by David Smitherman

The Peters Creek Community Initiative (PCCI) was organized to provide a voice to the neighborhoods and businesses situated adjacent to Peters Creek Parkway. It also desires to promote economic development that compliments and supports the adjacent neighborhoods. PCCI administers the City's Revitalizing Urban Commercial Areas (RUCA) grants that are partially responsible for the improvements to the West Salem Shopping Center.

Currently, PCCI is working with the City's Department of Transportation to ensure that planned roadway improvements to Peters Creek Parkway properly address pedestrian and bicycle safety. It is also hoped that the infrastructure changes can promote a "sense of place" for the intersections at Academy and Link Roads. **Public meetings are scheduled for November 18th (at Green Street UMC) and 19th (at Ardmore Baptist Church) at 6 pm**, to allow public comment on the important changes. We invite you to make your voice heard so that the neighborhoods can reclaim Peters Creek Parkway as a destination for goods and services that improve our quality of life.



West Ender Newsletter History

- by John Merschel

George Bryan and I are working to collect, categorize and bind for preservation over 340 West Ender newsletters. Bound hard copies and digital scans are available in the Winston-Salem Central Library's Carolina Room. The history of West End is represented by our historic homes as well as by all the people who care about our neighborhood. The following excerpts provide a representative sample of the history preserved by over 37 years of the West Ender newsletter. But our collection is not complete. If you have old copies of the West End newsletter please contact the West End Association so we can add them to our collection.

- April 1979: "Board of Alderman approve WEA petition for zoning change on 1st Street. The change from B-3 to R-2 involved half a house at 1224 West 1st Street – the other half was already zoned R-2 with the Lumley House at 1218."
- September 1979: "George Bryan spoke August 27 at the West End meeting. George was a member of citizens against Perkins - who are trying to stop radioactive material from being transported thru Winston-Salem on I-40."
- September 1980: "On her 90th birthday, Terrell Young reminisces: I was born Sept 21, 1890, 2 doors from the 1st Presbyterian Church on Cherry Street. I attended West End school (which was located where the Sears, Roebuck and Company department store now stands), then attended Salem Academy before it was turned into a college. My mother and father moved to 852 West 5th Street in 1892 on the same day the Zinzendorf hotel burned to the ground. I formed the nursery class at the 1st Presbyterian Church, Oct. 12, 1925 and taught it for 43 years."
- January 1982. (Advertisement): "Lighthouse Restaurant. Our new menu has 6 complete dinners under 3.00 dollars."
- April 1986: "A spokesman in the city's parks and recreation department has assured the West End that Hanes Park is a most unlikely location for a Reynolds High School stadium. The original land grant for the park disallows the building of any structure on the land. Also, action by the board of alderman would be necessary for the stadium to be built in the park. Since the school board is now considering a proposal for Reynolds and Parkland high to share a new stadium in the Parkland district, we hope that nobody is seriously considering Hanes Park for the site of a stadium. We will remain vigilant on this matter."

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Please visit historicwestend.org for information about our neighborhood's history, maps, links and membership information

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Leaf Collection Begins November 4

City crews will start collecting leaves on Monday, November 4, in the western quadrant of the city, between Business 40 and U.S. 421 to the south and Reynolda and Yadkinville roads to the north. Citizens can go to Sanitation.CityofWS.org to track the progress of leaf collection and to enter their address for an estimate of when the leaf trucks will be in their neighborhood or call CityLink at 311 and a City Link agent will look it up. Keep in mind that the date will be only an estimate, because inclement weather and other factors can affect the pace of leaf collection. City leaf trucks will make three passes through each neighborhood.

Rake leaves to the edge of the yard, behind the curb, and not in the street. Sticks, rocks, and other debris may damage our equipment. Please, leaves only. Do not park vehicles on, in front of, or near leaves. Do not put leaves on a tarp or over a storm drain. Leaf collection is provided to single-family houses only. Remember, residents MAY NOT burn leaves inside the city limits.

Hanes Park Stream Bank Clean Up

submitted by Bibi Coyne

When: Saturday, Nov. 9 from 9 AM to Noon

Where: Randy Pate Tennis Center – the covered area in front of the tennis center

RSVP to ehdcoyne@me.com Please indicate whether you are a skilled or unskilled volunteer in terms of plant knowledge.

We have scheduled one of the park maintenance crew to work with Friends of Hanes Park. Under his guidance, we'll clear vines and invasive plants from the stream banks, focusing our efforts between the central bridge that leads to the tennis center toward Glade to the next bridge.

We'll assign volunteers to work in teams, pairing those with plant knowledge with less experienced volunteers. Bring a friend!

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