



The West Ender

By and for the West End Neighborhood

West End Association Meetings

4th Tuesdays at 6:00PM
NEXT MEETINGS
22 Sept & 27 Oct.
West End Room
William G. White YMCA
775 West End Blvd, WS
Corner of West End Blvd &
Glade St.

Collection Schedules

cityofws.org/568/sanitation
Get schedules and
reminders for your address
with app
"Winston-Salem
Collects"

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West End Listserv

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Our Web Site

historicwestend.org

Facebook Pages

*West End Neighbors
Association*

*Neighborhood
Watch-West End,
Winston-Salem
(Safety & Security)*

HistoricWestEnd.org

September 2026

HOMES TOUR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Planning is underway for the 24th edition of the **Historic West End Holiday Homes Tour, Sunday, Dec. 6, from Noon to 5pm.** Eight or nine historic homes will be open for the tour.

Volunteer to help with the tour.

House captains: support the home owners and docents.

Docents: stationed at locations in each house to assist guests during the tour. Shifts are available for the first or second half of the tour.

There are other opportunities to take

part. Please visit the QR link to **SignUpGenius** here to choose the best one for you.

Each volunteer will receive a **FREE TOUR TICKET, a \$25 value.** You will be able to use your ticket to visit other tour houses before or after your shift. Plus you get invited to the volunteer appreciation party immediately after the tour.

All proceeds go to the nonprofit West End Neighborhood Association to support neighborhood community projects and social activities throughout the next two years.



Visit QR to sign up

Contributions from local businesses are welcome. Our sponsors in 2024 included Home Real Estate, Phillips Ranson Real Estate Team, Kilpatrick, Wilson Covington Construction, Incendiary Brewing, ICON Custom Builders, Anderson Moore Kitchen & Bath, and Joyner's Bar. **Contact Mark Lively to become a tour sponsor:**

mlivelyiii@gmail.com

Renew Your 2026 WEA Membership NOW
historicwestend.org/join/

West End Association, PO Box 21054

Winston-Salem, NC 27120

TheWestEnder@Yahoo.com





Home Starts Here: How greeNest is Transforming Lives in Our Community

by Julia Toone



Every home has a story. For many families in Winston-Salem, the hardest chapter comes after they receive the keys to a safe place to live. Too often, that home is empty.

That's where greeNest steps in.

Located in the West End at 630 Brookstown Avenue, greeNest has been transforming our community by helping families turn empty houses into welcoming homes for 11 years. greeNest provides gently used furniture, household essentials, and new beds for children to individuals and families transitioning from homelessness, domestic violence, foster care, and other life crises. Families are able to select the furnishings that best fit their needs, creating not just a furnished house, but a home filled with dignity and hope. Since opening in 2015, greeNest has furnished more than 2,400 homes

and provided more than 3,500 children with beds of their own through its **Up Off the Floor program**.

The West End community has been an important part of that mission. Neighbors donate furniture, volunteer their time, attend fundraising events, and spread the word about greeNest's work. Every donated dining table becomes the place where a family gathers for dinner. Every sofa creates a comfortable place for children to read or watch a movie. Every bed gives a child the opportunity for a better night's sleep.

This September, the community has a unique opportunity to support that mission while celebrating local creativity.

Join us September 18 when greeNest will host **The givingRooms: Donate. Vote. Furnish Hope**. Local interior designers, businesses, and creative volunteers will transform donated furniture into inspiring room designs that demonstrate the power of a well-furnished home. Guests can:

- Tour beautifully designed room vignettes.
- Vote for their favorite designer with a charitable donation.
- Purchase one-of-a-kind furniture and décor featured in the event.
- Enjoy an evening celebrating local design while helping furnish homes for neighbors in need.

Every dollar raised helps provide essential furnishings and beds for local families working toward housing stability.

Whether you are passionate about interior design, enjoy supporting local nonprofits, or simply want to make a difference, The givingRooms offers a meaningful way to invest in our community.

There are many ways West End residents can support greeNest throughout the year:

- Donate gently used furniture and household goods.
- Volunteer in the showroom or warehouse.
- Become a financial supporter.
- Attend **The givingRooms** on September 18.
- Share greeNest's mission with friends and neighbors.

Together, we can ensure that every family has more than just a roof over their heads—we can help them build a place they are proud to call home.

**For event information, tickets, volunteering, or donation opportunities:
VISIT www.greenestws.org/, or stop by the showroom at 630 Brookstown Avenue.**

Because everyone deserves not just a house—but a place to belong.



Becky Gould Gibson – Prize Winning Poet!

by Mark Lively



Former West End resident and poet, Becky Gould Gibson, is the 2026 James Applewhite Poetry Prize winner. Her poem “Landscape with Snow” was selected from over 425 poems submitted by 135 different poets. Becky has published more than 10 books of poetry and received many awards. Her newest poetry collection “Characters” was recently published by the literary press and publisher Main Street Rag.

Becky taught English and Women’s studies at Guilford College until her retirement in 2008. She and husband Bill lived on Brookstown Avenue for more than 30 years before moving to Wilmington. Bill was an enthusiastic volunteer with the West End Association. Bill was also an author, of sorts. He wrote for this newsletter in its early days under the pseudonym Wendy the West End Windbag. You can find his rambling offerings in issues of *The West Ender* in the 1980s. Becky and Bill now live in Chapel Hill. Archived issues can be viewed at (historicwestend.org/resources/west-ender-newsletter/)

Read more about the award and the Applewhite Poetry Prize at this link: nclr.ecu.edu/2026/08/07/2026-applewhite-winners/

Fellowship Home of Winston-Salem Correction!



The author of “The Fellowship Home of Winston-Salem” published in the May 2026 edition of *The West Ender* was incorrectly identified as former West Ender Susan Morris. **The author was Sharon E. Nelson, Development & Communications Consultant.** Sharon is a consultant for the Fellowship Home. She can be reached at sharonenelson@gmail.com.

Reach out to Sharon to offer your support for the Home’s residents. *The West Ender* apologizes for failing to identify Sharon as the author!

Susan Morris volunteers at the Home. Susan has been an active volunteer with the West End

Association for many years. She is a strategic consultant with **SueMo Consulting** in Winston-Salem.

The West Ender

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