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Notable Trees of the West End:

Fall is in the air. Although it's still pretty hot during the day, the days are getting noticeably shorter and the nights are cool. For those of us without air conditioning this is an especially delightful time of year. Another indication is the fall coloring of our native Dogwoods (cornus florida) that are beginning to show their red foliage and scarlet berries that persist as bird food into the winter. Dogwoods are the first trees to turn color, and in the spring they are one of the first to bloom. The bloom also happens to be our state flower. The bark is light grey with deep, dark furrows that break the bark into small plates. This texture and the gracefully contorted branches make the Dogwood striking in the winter landscape. Dogwoods are small, understory trees, but sometimes reach heights over 20 feet. For all these reasons they are popular trees, but unfortunately there is a fungus called Anthracnose that is now afflicting our native Dogwoods. Anthracnose is evidenced by a powdery coating on the leaves. The leaves may also look wrinkled or wilted. Unfortunately there is little that can be done to save affected trees. Large, old trees can be appreciated while they last, but it will certainly hasten their demise. Treatments are available for smaller dogwoods, but if the tree is susceptible to the fungus you will probably end up having to repeat treatments. Personally I would replace an affected tree with one that is less vulnerable.



Nurseries sell resistant cultivars of cornus florida. Another option is the cornus kousa, a Japanese Dogwood with similar flowers and habits as cornus florida. However, its flowers are born later in the summer, and its seeds are contained in an orange, bumpy, fruit-like structure that is about the size of a gumball with a geodesic pattern. Unfortunately, these fruits are abundant, and soon after ripening they fall off the tree, which can make a mess on the street or sidewalk. On a good note, these fruits are tasty. If you squeeze out the pulp, avoiding the thick, mealy skin and the seed, you may find its taste reminds you of a cross between a mango, pear and perhaps a plum. The bark on the Japanese Dogwood is smooth, but peels off the older trees, resulting in a modeled, or what I call a "camouflage" affect. This feature and its elegant branch structure are shown off the best when the branches have been thinned out. If you would like to compare these two species of Dogwood, there are two conveniently-placed examples of both cornus florida and cornus kousa in front of 817 West End Boulevard.

– Kevin Lindsey, 722-2881

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The West Ender

By and for the West End Neighborhood

October 2003

ARTSfest 2003

On a beautiful Saturday afternoon in the historic West End neighborhood, well over a thousand people converged on Grace Court Park to browse through fine arts and crafts exhibited by dozens of regional artists. A wide range of artists such as potters, painters, weavers, sculptors, wood carvers, jewelers, glass blowers, leather workers and more, sold pieces to folks who had come from all over the city. Musical entertainment throughout the afternoon was interspersed with drawings for art work donated by the artists. While children were entertained with face painting and chalk drawing, parents enjoyed food from local food vendors and sponsors who set up on Fourth Street above the park. The rabbits brought by weaver W.J. "Bart" Bartnikowski were a special hit with the kids, as were the blown glass demonstrations being given by members of The Glassblowers studio. A number of attendees noted that the West End should host the ARTSfest every year. Informal reports from the artists indicate good sales and gratitude for the beautiful weather.

A large number of volunteers and dedicated organizers such as Kathleen Ramich, Cathy Stanley and Bud and Barbara Goldsmith helped make ARTSfest 2003 a success. Special thanks goes out to these volunteers and to ARTSfest 2003 sponsors: The West End Neighborhood Association, The Winston-Salem Journal, Krispy Kreme, Brookstown Inn, GMAC, Sharpe Images, Blessings Antiques and Designs, Prudential Carolinas Realty, The Cicero Tise House, Price Davis Florist, The Screen Scene, Urban Oasis, Lexington State Bank, Bretco Electric Co., Jewell Interiors and Domicile Magazine. Our musical artists also deserve a round of applause for making the afternoon such a success. Thank you Triad Scottish Fiddlers & Friends, The Gullywashers, Hillbilly Liberation Front, The Morris Family and Patrick Lui.



SEPTEMBER WEST END EVENTS

Tuesday, October 7th at 7:00 PM: West End Assoc. Meeting, Tise House, 952 W. 4th St, (near Grace Court)
All West End residents welcome! Come meet your neighbors and discuss the future of the neighborhood!




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West End: A Look Back

Tom Angelo grew up in the West End and has spent most of his life in the house his parents built at the corner of 6th and Broad streets. In the 70-plus years he has spent in the West End neighborhood, Mr. Angelo has seen tremendous change and overall improvement. Many of his early memories date back to the decade of the depression when everyone was struggling to get by. Then, as now, there was a mixture of housing types and incomes in the West End. From white-collar professionals to domestic workers, from shacks, tenant housing and apartments to large mansions, the West End has always been a diverse neighborhood.

Mr. Angelo remembers with particular fondness an open field near the corner of Summit and 6th streets where he, his six siblings, and the other neighborhood children played baseball, (across from where the Answorth Apartments are now). He also remembers special events such as May Day held at the West End School where he attended 4th grade (now the site of the Wachovia Data Center on 4 1/2 Street). Being within walking distance of school was one of the main reasons his father chose to build in the West End. "My father chose this place because he said 'you can walk to school, church, downtown, just about anywhere you need to go.' We had cars back then, but we didn't depend on them like we do today." "I remember my Grandmother would walk over to visit us...She lived in the neighborhood near Reynolds High School. She would walk over and take us to Grace Court to play. Then we would take the 7 ¢ streetcar back to her house. The stop was near Reynolds High School." On Burke Street Mr. Angelo recalls there wasn't nearly as much development. "There was a lot of residential – some apartments, duplexes, nothing too fancy. My Uncle EJ built a store there, a grocery, in the late 20's or early 30's..." (the building that now houses Burke St. Pizza). His Uncle EJ's grocery was one of three "fancy groceries" in the West End at the time. The other two were down at the bottom of the hill on West End Blvd. near where the antique shops are now. In addition to the fancy groceries that delivered, a number of "mom & pop" groceries were found throughout the neighborhood.

As for neighbors, Mr. Angelo remembers the neighbors on his block were very close, particularly because of the children. "I counted at one time 22 children in these 6 houses (on the block)...Now there are probably about 3. We were more neighborly then in the sense that we were always playing together, so our parents would interact with each other." Mr. Angelo doesn't think that kids are as close today as they were when he was growing up. However, he says the West End as a whole is more connected by the large, neighborhood-wide events such as the 4th of July parties and ice cream socials. While much has changed in the West End over the years, some of its best attributes remain. We still enjoy a convenient location in a walkable neighborhood and neighbors still feel a sense of community.

Make a Note...
Welcome Neighbors!
 Marilyn Poorbaugh is putting together gift baskets for recent arrivals to the West End. If you have a new neighbor, please contact Marilyn at 722-2469. Please note that Marilyn must have your neighbor's name and phone number to coordinate a timely delivery.
Call for Newsletter Ideas
 If you have ideas for newsletter topics, please give your new editor Amy Lindsey a call at 722-2881 or send an email to amylindsey@earthlink.net.

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Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission
Partial agenda for September 3, 2003, 4:00 P.M.
Council Chamber, 5th Floor, City Hall South, 100 East First Street

Certificate of Appropriateness Applications (West End Historic Overlay District)

- David S. Poythress, II and Nancy Steelman Poythress, Applicants
 922 West End Blvd.
 Frank P. Davis (Inventory #384)
Renovations and modifications to the rear elevation and foundation
- Andrew Leslie & Margaret Zulick, Applicants
 101 West End Blvd.
 John V. Pardue House (Inventory #8)
Fence and entrance gate installation (after-the-fact)
- Joseph L. Anderson, Applicant
 222 North Sunset Dr.
 Non-contributing house (Inventory #402)
Enclosure of side porch (after-the-fact)
- Heather MacKenzie, Applicant
 407 Summit St.
 Dixon House (Inventory #102)
Modification to existing retaining wall

West End Historic Overlay District Minor Work Approvals

Mark and Rebecca Sechrist, Applicants
 819 West Sixth St.
 Kennerly-Shelton House (#203)
Window modification in the kitchen
Window and door modification in the laundry room

William and Barbara Goldsmith, Applicants
 1300-1306 West First St.
 Non-Contributing Apartments (#438)
Alterations to the existing porches and steps
Removal and replacement of existing porch railing (wood to wrought iron)
Replacement of the hand rail with new wood

Joseph L. Anderson, Applicant
 222 North Sunset Dr.
 Non-contributing house (#402)
Removal of existing concrete steps and replacement with brick and wood steps

NEXT MEETING: November 5, 2003
 For more information please contact Michelle McCullough at 747-7063 or MICHELLEM@cityofws.org

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