



HISTORIC TIMES

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR TOLEDO'S HISTORIC OLD WEST END



Top-floor décor

Our May top-floor décor winner is Jackie and Jared; the location of the décor is 2052 Robinwood. Our June top-floor décor picture is shown below. See the Historic Times December 2021 issue for complete information and rules for our game (or go on-line at www.toleodooldwestend.com). Whoever wins the most games for the year will receive a \$100 gift card for Black Kite. To win the game for the month, you must be the first person to identify the location of the building, by its street address, in an email message to Donald.godfrey@utoledo.edu, with the subject heading Top-floor décor. The body of your message should have the street address of the building and your name. The deadline for responding is 5 PM on the 21st day of the month.



49TH ANNUAL • TOLEDO, OHIO

OLD WEST END

HISTORIC FESTIVAL

FESTIVAL UPDATES

Some helpful tips for this year's Festival.



Scan this code for the latest updates.

Have a Golf Cart?
Offer our guests a free ride.

Place a trash can at the sidewalk for a cleaner Festival.

Put out a dish of water for our 4-legged friends.

Offer your porch if it rains!

W.O.W.E. Wed., June 1
Tammy Michlak
2056 Scottwood Ave.

Association Tues., June 21
To Be announced
7:00 pm

Kudos to:

Leslie Neuendorff

for being a Newsletter courier for many years.
Thank You Leslie!

Festival Neighborhood Clean-Up

Kelly O'Brian, Tom Baughman, Judy Stone,
Linda Bigelow, Brett Slater (May 14th)
and

Andrew Larson, Brett Slater, Ed Hoffman, Ciara Stewart, Vivvi Stewart, Justin Bays, Dan Finkel, Dan LaCerva, Patrick and Lexi Sloan (May 21st)

WANTED
Historic Times Courier for
2200 Scottwood Ave.
(Approx. 63 homes from Bancroft to Virginia)
Average about 20 min. once a month, great exercise! Contact Kent at 419-367-9155 or killenden@engineeredimaging.com



Sunflower Musical Sculptures in the Arboretum.

Thanks to (l-r), Jeff Johnston, Jim Logan, Brian Rietzke, Dave McIntyre & Kent Illenden for the 3 day dedication to finish this installation in memory of Joyce Perrin.



June 15, 4-7pm. (Rain or Shine)
Glenwood Lutheran Church

Food Trucks

Po Mo's Ribs & Lyle's Crepes

Education/Scholarship

Andrew Larsen

Congratulations to **Eli Palmer!**
He is the recipient of the 2022 Old West End Scholarship awarded in Memory of **Deb Kienzle.**



MEETING REMINDERS



Letter from the President

by Chris Hanley
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glenwoodpastor@gmail.com



Dear Old West Enders,

Who was the first person who welcomed you to the neighborhood? Who called you up onto their porch or invited you inside to see a home of which you had not yet dreamed? Who helped orient you to Festival and to the patterns of life peculiar to the OWE, renting golf carts, applying for COA's, and attending Music in the Park?

My introduction to the neighborhood came through Michael Loomus, a man with terrific taste in music, locally sourced foods, and beards. When I first interviewed with the Call Committee at Glenwood Lutheran Church, I told them they did not need to find a place for me to stay; I would reserve an Air BnB in the neighborhood and get to know the area. I think this might have been one of the finest decisions of my life because Michael was that first host.

Michael's enthusiasm for this neighborhood was completely infectious. When he realized that I had no idea what made the Old West End special, he helped me understand both the age and grandeur of the Houses, which he knew from years of volunteering as a house guide. (He would go on to be a House Co-Captain for the Bartley Mansion that year.) Then he regaled me with other legends from the Old West End Festival; this magical time when the whole neighborhood erupted with joy and golf carts. He also observed that the usual social barriers between strangers become transformed by the energy of the Festival. He marveled at how many people he had met at Festival, wandering from porch to porch, who had become really important to him. In May 2017, I moved to Toledo to begin a call as the Pastor of Glenwood Lutheran Church. When I got to experience the magic for myself in the 2017 Festival, Michael was there to invite me to live jazz on the balcony of his apartment and continued to get me networked into the neighborhood.

I wonder how we can ensure that newcomers to our neighborhood, visi-

Tuesday, June 14, 2022
O.W.E. Executive Board Meeting
Kent Illenden, 2702 Parkwood (7 pm)
Tuesday, June 21, 2022
Association Meeting
To be announced (7 pm)
ALL NEIGHBORS ARE WELCOME!

tors, and potential neighbors, might have such a terrific introduction. Michael showed me things that I still think being an Old West Ender is all about: a sense of wonder around stunning architecture and the stories of these houses, a willingness to volunteer in Festival and beyond, and a commitment to meeting new people and starting new dialogues. His excitement fueled my excitement, his recommendations guided my celebration of Festival, and his hospitality solidified me as a neighbor with new relationships of my own in this place.

The OWE Association has committees to which grant responsibility for our most important work: Security, Preservation, the Steering Committee of Festival, Education, and the Arboretum. I wonder whether it would be wise for us to have a dedicated team that welcomes people to the neighborhood and introduces them with the same kind of care and enthusiasm that Michael Loomus shared with me. Indeed, even preservation begins with a person's introduction to neighbors who will show them the ropes and help them avoid mistakes learned through experience. I will never be able to thank Michael enough for that, and I hope that anyone who moves to our home might have their Michael Loomus, and perhaps you will be that for someone new this month. Happy Festival to you all!

Chris Hanley

Business Network Group

The Business Networking Group will host the June meeting on **Thursday, June 23, 2022, at 7:00 in the Arboretum Gazebo**. We will set in motion October's Autumn Market preparations and secure our participants for the Business Success Fair in November. Please join us and bring a friend to learn how you can help bring business to the Old West End!! Light refreshments provided.

With summer quickly approaching, be mindful of our smallest neighbors in streets and driveways! As children play outside, it is easy for a child to get in the way of a vehicle backing up. Many minivans, SUVs, and trucks have especially long blind spots behind the vehicle so it is difficult to see a small child. Always check behind your vehicle and pull out slowly.

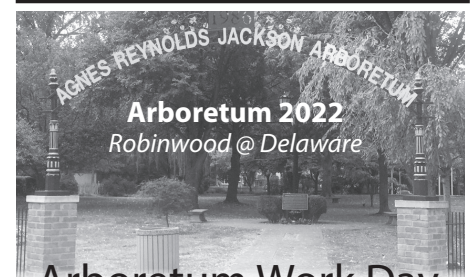


OLD WEST END SECURITY

Summer months also mean yard work! After a hard day sprucing up the yard and garden, don't forget to lock your doors. (especially garages) Open and unlocked doors are invitations to intruders. The security patrols help to deter crime in our neighborhood, but make sure to take the needed precautionary steps to protect your property.

SAVE THE DATE: OWES Scavenger Hunt is on Saturday, July 23! Come up with a team of four, register, and scour the neighborhood and find 'hidden' festival tee-shirts. The teams that find the most locations in the shortest amount of time will win fabulous prizes from Poco Loco, Jupmode, Balance and many more. Family friendly. Mark your calendars – it will be a GREAT time!

For more information check our website: www.OldWestEndSecurity.com. You can now join, pay, or donate online!! It's easier than ever to show your support and help keep our neighborhood safe!



Arboretum Work Day
Saturday, June 18th
9am - noon
Food Provided!!!



Sunday, June 19th, 6-8pm

Madison Avenue Band

Sponsored by:

North River Building & Development



The Women of The Old West End

WOWE Officers:
Carol Kutsche,
Toni Moore and
Tammy Michalak

CONSENT DECREE: PRESERVING THE OLD WEST END HISTORIC DISTRICT

by David Neuendorff

If you have been reading this series of articles** about the Court Ordered Creation of the "CONSENT DECREE" between the residents of the historic districts and the City of Toledo it should be clear that the future of the historic districts within the City of Toledo is uncertain.

Repeatedly, the City of Toledo has been brought back to Court by OWE residents and neighborhood groups to enforce the Toledo Municipal Code legal mandate of the Historic District Zoning Overlay Ordinance. Equally, however has been the problem of residents of the historic district who have knowingly violated the Historic District Overlay Ordinance for personal convenience and gain even if said actions may lead ultimately to the destruction of the historic districts.

An example, is the resident or property owner, who is **aware** of the necessity to consult with the Old West End Historic District Commission (OWEHDC) and receive a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) "before" any environmental change is made to a property within the historic district **but chooses** to remove, change or destroy, and then blatantly claim ignorance of the law.

An "environmental change" is defined as: any exterior alteration, demolition, removal or new construction of any property, requiring or not requiring a building permit subject to the historic overlay provisions of the Zoning Code. (Ch. 1103.0302)

"Alter" or "alteration" is defined as: any change requiring a building permit involving the exterior architectural features, including significant landscaping, or any property which lies within a historic district, not including demolition, removal or new construction. (Ch. 1103.0302).

Unfortunately, there are too many examples past and current of this recurring phenomena. I will, due to limitations of space, just list two as examples.

November 13, 2018 REF: OWE-107-18 Robinwood Avenue. The applicant received a COA to replace the existing concrete driveway, rear entry steps, and walkway patio at the subject site. During the September 9, 2018, OWEHDC public hearing meeting there was detailed discussion, with no mention of any foundation work. The applicant carried the "stamped concrete design" pattern onto foundation work that was not requested or

THE MOTHER'S DAY HIGH TEA

Hosted by WOWE & The Libbey House Foundation

It could not have been a more perfect day. The delicious Luncheon Towers brimming with amazing sandwiches, salad on a stick and delicious desserts had the guests just brimming over with compliments. And the weather was perfect too. **A huge thank you to everyone who helped make it an incredible day for all!!**



SUNDAY MAY 15, 2022



approved via OWE-74-18. The applicant then wanted and sought a "retroactive approval" of the work which was denied.

KeyBank, which has a branch at 3031 Collingwood Blvd., had a contractor knock down a brick wall next to the bank, May 2019, without seeking any COA. In so doing, it violated the Toledo Municipal Code, which requires that any structure removed in the Old West End Historic District is demolished "after" the OWE Historic District Commission has issued a certificate of appropriateness (COA). Rather than require the restoration of the wall for violating the Historic District Overlay Ordinance, the bank was allowed to pay a small fine and then the City granted a retroactive COA in violation of the Consent Decree, and then erect a fence. So, those who ignore the law are **rewarded!**

(The city did have recourse but chose not to take it:) Toledo Municipal Code states: TMC 1115.0505 Abatement. The City may seek a court order in the nature of mandamus, abatement, or other action or proceeding to abate or remove a violation or to otherwise restore the premises in question to the condition in which they existed prior to the violation. (Ord. 336-15. Passed 6-23-15.)

Above are just two, of too many, salient examples of residents and property owners who want the status of living within a historic district without the incumbent personal responsibility of living in a special community.

In conclusion, the final chapter of historic preservation is the action taken by each resident and property owner choosing to either preserve or personally profit from the historic district. Old time residents of the historic district can relate sad stories of exterior stained glass windows illegally removed and sold. In one case on Delaware subsequently recovered and replaced only later by another owner of the property. Then a sub-sequent owner removing and selling them yet again. Another piece of the historic fabric lost.

Time, decay, fire, and neglect all take a toll. It

is not always possible to replace and maintain the structures we have in this neighborhood. Protecting and preserving the Old West End Neighborhood is not an easy or inexpensive task. Remember that the Old West End Historic District Overlay Ordinance only protects and preserves the exterior historic district elements and that is actually only a process of discussion, evaluation, recommendation and compromise.

THE CHOICE IS YOURS:

Ultimately, do you consider your-self and time in the Old West End as that of a guardian and caretaker of a legacy, or that of an opportunist? Many of the wonders that once were in this historic district lost through attrition, are now unappreciated by those here today, because they are unaware of what preceded their time in this neighborhood.

**The first thru fourth articles in this series can be found in the February thru May 2022 issues of Historic Times at https://www.toledodoldwestend.com/historic_times

COMMONS PARK

Thank you to everyone who came out to the Commons on our 1st of 2 workdays in May. **OWE Residents: Jim Logan, Tammy Michalak, Carol Kutsche, Toni Moore, Mike McMahon & Ken Schumaker**
Lucas County Volunteers: Jerry Fowler, Tonya Geer, Shanon Bodi

We will submit the names of all who helped ready the commons for the Big Planting day in the June newsletter.

UPCOMING WOWE MEETINGS
6:30 POTLUCK 7:00 MEETING
 FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
All neighbors are welcome!

June 1	Tammy Michalak
	2056 Scottwood
July 6	Toni Moore
	2369 Robinwood

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