



HISTORIC TIMES

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR TOLEDO HISTORIC OLD WEST END



We are taking time in this newsletter to honor Judge Andy Devine who was a driving force for many things in our City and State, including his beloved Old West End.



THE HONORABLE JUDGE ANDY DEVINE 1921-2018

From A Blade Editorial

The young of Toledo lost a champion when Andy Devine passed away this past November, just a few days short of his 97th Birthday.

At 96 years old, the retired Lucas County juvenile judge had given a lifetime of service to all citizens, but his deepest interest was youth.

He sought public office not to affirm his importance but to make a difference. He was not really a politician but a public servant.

Indeed Mr. Devine actually worked his way down the political ladder, in pursuit of the best way to serve his community and his time. He served in the Ohio General Assembly, the Lucas County Board of Commissioners, got elected to Toledo City Council, and Toledo Municipal Court, before settling in for 12 years as Lucas County juvenile judge, retiring in 1988.

For him the most vital mission was helping kids in peril and looking for ways to keep families together.

Just days before his death, Judge Devine attended a board meeting at the Parents Institute at Lourdes University in Sylvania. The institute was his brainchild.

For the judge, the key to child welfare, indeed to ending poverty, was parenting. If parenting had to be taught — and he'd concluded that it does have to be taught in this day and age - so be it.

We can say of Andy Devine the best thing that can be said of any person: He lived his values.

He spurned a fourth term in the General Assembly because it meant spending too much time away from his family.

It was Judge Devine who introduced the Court Appointed Special Advocate(CASA) program to Lucas County Juvenile Court in the late 1970s, after hearing about a CASA program in Seattle. At his request, the Junior League of Toledo investigated how CASA could work in Lucas County and then led the initial establishment and training. CASA has flourished in Lucas County ever since — perhaps the single best helping program we have. It saves the lives of children.

He started CARES, Chemical Abuse Reduced Through Education and Services, and spoke around the country on the importance of addiction prevention.

He went to live in the Old West End at a time
(Continued Page 3)



Kudos to:

- Gary Douglass & Dan Voegli**
for being the "educators" for the Preservation Committee's Boiler Class and
- Chuck Madrigal & Finley Gleason**
for hosting the Boiler Class
- Jean Holden**
for being one of the 2019 YWCA Milestones honorees
- Jim Logan**
for picking up limbs and sticks in the Commons Park, the Arboretum and various neighbors yards after the Ice Storm
- Brittany Burns**
for a stellar performance in the "Little Mermaid"

Old West End Supper Club

The idea for The Old West End Supper Club, which was simmering for a while, was sparked by Jennifer Hanson, but then ignited into interest by more than 90 people, with 30 committing to hosting monthly dinners. Jennifer thought choosing groups of ten at random would allow everyone to meet new people from the neighborhood, and make the dinners more of a culinary and social adventure. Members of each group would take turns hosting in their homes. Judy Stone and Skip Gaynor, Geralyn and Don Brock, and Jennifer and David Hanson volunteered to host their groups first. The first round was a great success:



David Hanson: "I welcomed the opportunity to prepare some of my favorite Middle Eastern food; I normally wouldn't invest the time to do this just for my family—a leg of lamb and an Egyptian bread pudding are two things I haven't made for quite a while. Our guests were quite receptive."

Jeff Pettit: "While the food and drink were incredible (thanks to hosts Geralyn and Don Brock), the best part was slowing down from life's hectic pace to enjoy the company of my neighbors. It reminded me of those sophisticated cocktail parties/dinners my parents used to have in the 1960s (without the cigarettes of course)"

Geralyn Brock: I LOVED hosting the first dinner for Group 2. We had a really lovely time! These dinners are also great fun to cook and host. I've

cooked things I've never done before, and although a challenge, I learned and had great fun doing it. We have a marvelously entertaining group. These dinners are giving me something to look forward to in this dreary winter weather.

Judy Stone and Skip Gaynor decided to put a twist on the dinner idea by turning theirs into a brunch, with Bloody Marys enjoyed by all.

Each group can decide when to meet. Interest even arose for an all-vegan group which will be meeting soon. Anyone living in the Old West End is welcome to join. Dinners may be hosted by a single person, couple or two individuals working together. Those interested can contact Jennifer Hanson at jalehanson@yahoo.com who will continue to form groups of ten as long as there is interest. After the first cycle of dinners, groups will be reconfigured.



MEETING REMINDERS

O.W.E.N.I.
March 19, 6pm
Kent Branch Library

W.O.W.E.
March 6, 6:30pm
Stambaugh, 2636 Parkwood

O.W.E. Association
March 19, 7:30 pm
Guyton, 2459 Scottwood



Letter from the President

by Jeni Belt



A recent post by a neighbor sparked a lively discussion about preservation-related activities in the neighborhood. The Old West End Preservation Committee's purpose is defined in our bylaws: "to engage in focused activities designed to preserve the historic and aesthetic qualities of Old West End property." These currently include: educational classes on home maintenance issues, identifying properties at risk to determine where assistance may be needed, and conducting focused salvage activities for homes slated for demolition.

Recently, representatives from the Committee met with the Lucas County Land Bank to discuss some opportunities for partnership in renovation instead of salvage. The Committee has also been working over the last several months with the City to develop a handbook that addresses required criteria for conducting exterior repairs in the Historic District (and thus subject to a certificate of appropriateness) and to identify suitable materials for replacement.

Of course, there is always more work to do; yet, the Committee consists of a small but very dedicated group of individuals. An increase in the number of active participants in this Committee would enable it to do so much more of what is arguably one of our most impor-

tant functions as an Association. If you are passionate about preservation and what that should look like in our neighborhood, please join this Committee. Its meeting times are set forth in this newsletter.

At some level, preservation is designed to maintain the status quo; however, this must be done in keeping with current knowledge and changing culture and sensibilities. So, too, must our Association evolve to identify the shared goals of our neighbors. To that end, we are revamping our meeting structure in an effort to make meetings less "meeting-like." We will still share information about current happenings and the work of our committees, but we are working to streamline this aspect of meetings so we can instead focus on big picture discussions and strategy, as well as community building. We have created a suggestion box and I welcome any and all suggestions for how we can make the meetings more effective and/or enjoyable for our neighbors.

We are just a few short months away from Festival already. We have a terrific lineup of houses once again this year. We need volunteers to staff them, as well as our beer garden, info booth, and more. Grab a friend or two and volunteer for a shift. It's an easy way to help your neighborhood in everyone's favorite fundraiser.

Our next meeting takes place March 19 at 7:30 p.m. at a new location; **Ann & Tom Guyton's, 2459 Scottwood** We plan to discuss the Association's 2019 Strategic Plan to obtain neighbor input and direction. Hope to see you there!

Tuesday, March 12, 2019
O.W.E. Executive Board Meeting
 6 p.m. at **Deb Kienzle's Home**
 2238 Scottwood Ave.

Tuesday, March 19, 2019
O.W.E. Association
 7:30 p.m. Ann & Tom Guyton
 2459 Scottwood
EVERYONE IS ALWAYS WELCOME!



OLD WEST END SECURITY

Old West End Security wants to thank everyone who attended our Super Bowl soiree! We had a nice turnout and lots of fun with the point box, euchre, and a long boring game . . . Good company helped! The proceeds go to extra patrols, which equal higher visibility, and less opportunity for mischief. Spring WILL come, and with it more likelihood of petty crime. Please consider a membership to discourage that!

oldwestendsecurity.com

Resident Manager
(419) 902-0982

Preservation Committee

The next meeting is Monday, March 11 at 7 pm, Kent Branch Library. Contact Shawn Kellerbauer 419-340-4809 for further details.

Old West End Business Network Group

(Formerly known as the Entrepreneurship Committee)

The next Old West End Business Networkers meeting hosted by the Entrepreneurship Committee will be at **Judy Stone's home**. The address is **2428 Scottwood, Toledo Ohio, 43620**. The meeting is **Wednesday March 13th, 6:30 - 8:00**. We will be further detailing our next edition of the Business Directory, and planning the advertising for the Autumn Market. Follow our page on Facebook and be kept up on current events!

Association Strategic Planning Meeting, January 2019



OWENI has been busy with strategic planning initiatives! If you have volunteered with us, attended community meetings, or worked with us in any other capacity, please join us on **March 5, 2019 at 6pm at Grace Community Center** for our key stakeholder meeting, the first of a 3-step strategic process! We value your

voice! Also join us for our March community meeting, a panel discussion in partnership with the Toledo Police Department on distrust between law enforcement and the community. **March 19, 2019, 6pm at Kent Branch Library**. You won't want to miss it!



The Women of The Old West End

WOWE Officers:
Carol Kutsche, Toni Moore
& Tammy Michalak

RECENT PLAN COMMISSION HEARING

Please note that WOWE has been discussing this issue with the Plan Commission since 1985. Yes you read that right...since 1985 (32 YEARS!)

On February 14th, a rescheduled hearing addressing Group Homes and Special Use Permits was held by the Plan Commission Board. Several WOWE members attended and were able to address the continuing issues surrounding Group Homes & Special Use Permits (SUP)

A month long study had been by done by Josh Lewandowski of the Plan Commission regarding the various Districts in the city and the number of Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation facilities within those districts. If you did not see this in the newspaper here are a few excerpts from The Blade article, Feb. 16th

1. Most of Toledo's addiction treatment facilities are operating WITHOUT proper zoning approval by City Council.

2. Mr. Lewandowski was unable to pinpoint why District 4 (us) has the highest concentration of Drug & Alcohol related facilities (District 4 has 55% of these facilities) but anecdotal evidence suggests access to public transportation for clients could be a part of it. Mr. Lewandowski also stated that some of the data that they have shows about 73% of consumers are spread throughout the city.

Currently the spacing requirement for these facilities is 500 feet from another center. The Plan Commission at this time is proposing that spacing requirements go to spacing of 1000 feet. (We would like it to be 2000 feet). Dave Neuendorff presented a letter from the Plan Commission about spacing from 1978 proposing that a facility should be 1280 from another facility. I guess no one was keeping track of these guidelines all these years.

At least 3 of current facilities downtown had their spacing requirement waived by City Council. Which means they are very close to one another.

Note: The Plan Commission has given out Special Use Permits for years with no oversight of these properties. In fact, they do not know where all of these places are. Which begs the

question...How can the Plan Commission make an informed decision about a requested SUP when they are not sure where they all are in any district. Keep your eyes open for the Used Car lots that now are all over the city. These require a SUP and most are not in compliance.

Note* SUP's Special Use Permits

BANCROFT STREET & the STREET SIGNS

The Bancroft Beautification Committee will address this issue in the April newsletter after a meeting with City officials in March.

TO DATE THE PLAN COMMISSION HAS REJECTED A REQUEST FOR ANOTHER GROUP HOME IN DISTRICT 4

This project known as Warren Common's is a proposed 65 unit facility at the corner of Franklin & Woodruff. TASC of Northwest Ohio, Eden & Pirhl have partnered to develop this project. The developers stated that this facility was to address the homeless issue but were reluctant to say that it would include individuals coming out of jail, drug and alcohol addictions, mental health issues etc.

As of the writing of this newsletter the project was denied. The information provided by the developer's did not state services would be provided at this facility and which requires a Special Use Permit (SUP) that was not applied for.

WOWE WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP YOU INFORMED.

Judge Andy Devine Continued

when it was a struggling area, in part because he needed a big house for his large family, but also because he believed America's racial wound would never heal until black folks and white folks lived in neighborhoods together.

He involved himself personally, intimately, in the lives of children and parents who came to his court, and in the lives of parole officers, social workers, and bailiffs who worked for him. Andy Devine was an utterly sincere and totally decent human being who was in public life to seek justice and mercy, not power or glory.

He walked the walk. He made his Catholic faith a living prayer for almost 100 years. He made northwest Ohio a better place. He lived his values.

ANDY'S BELOVED OLD WEST END WOWE Remembers:

For those of us who had the opportunity to know this remarkable man, he also lived those values for his beloved Old West End.

When he and his wife Lorene were first married they lived in a duplex on Islington, then purchased a home in the 2600 block of Glenwood and then in 1971 purchased the Lamson House on Scottwood. Their family had grown to 6 children. And there was always a Senior family member of both Andy & Lorene's living with them.

With Andy & Lorene's move to Glenwood there were many conversations about the OWE with neighbor Judge Geraldine Macelwane about starting an organization for the neighborhood to address the many issues in the OWE in the 1960's. Thus began the OLD WEST END ASSN. with Judge Devine, Judge Macelwain, George

Stahl, and Church leaders on Collingwood. Rev. Robert Culp from First Church of God was also one of the original members. This group along with many neighbors began addressing those issues with the City. There was "block busting", red lining by the banks and insurance companies and lack of police protection. The OWE neighborhood was seeing a huge upswing in theft of Stained Glass windows, wrought-iron gates, and the copper spouting on the Cathedral and brass hand rails that use to guide you up the front steps - stolen. It was at this time that Andy ran for City Council. He wanted to address the apathy from the City regarding central city neighborhoods. From the previous article you learned about his Political Life, he was the consummate doer. No conversation was ever too long when it pertained to what he was truly interested in.

Andy came to WOWE in the early 1974. At that time the neighborhood and District 4 had been "red lined" by the banks. No conventional mortgage loans were allowed unless you had a substantial amount for a down payment. It was either VA or FHA loans.

A real estate broker who loved the OWE and sat on the Board of either First Federal/Defiance or First Federal/Delta (I wish I could remember which one) did secure 90% of the Conventional Mortgage Loans for those young families who wanted to buy a house in the OWE through one of those banks.

Andy felt that if we could get the wives of the Mortgage Loan Departments into the OWE it might help to open up bank loans for the OWE and the Central City. We said we would hold an upscale cocktail party, with tours of homes. Some homes that were finished and some needing many repairs. The intent was not only for them to meet us (I'm not sure who and what they thought lived in the OWE) and they could meet and speak with homeowners of the neighborhood who chose to live here. Andy made appointments with the heads of all the Mortgage Loan Dept. at all of the banks, engraved invitations were sent. RSVP's came back with many attending, but many saying there were not able to stay long. Needless to say the last guests left at 2:00AM. The guest began this amazing evening in the Dunn-Blair house on Scottwood, with a pianist and harpist, amazing hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and then were invited to tour 4 other homes. It was like the re-filming of Ben Hur!! Cameras were everywhere and guests were overwhelmed by the beauty and craftsmanship of our homes. Thanks to Andy and WOWE the following year the local banks began approving conventional mortgage loans for the OWE. WOWE presented this invitation the following year. Those that missed the first one made sure they attended the second one. This was such a huge success for our neighborhood but more so a gift from Andy to all of us.

Andy and Lorene loved their life in the OWE and did not want to leave but health issues and the big house with just the two of them living in it, now seemed overwhelming. I miss Andy's presence and his legacy for many of the things he did for the OWE and for children will live on. There is so much more to write and tell you and perhaps at another time we will continue the story of The Honorable Judge Andy Devine & Mrs. Lorene Devine. There are wonderful stories about her too.

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

Please join us and learn how WOWE is making a difference for our neighborhood

Mar. 6, **Debbie Stambaugh**
 2636 Parkwood Ave.

April 3, **Geralyn Brock**
 3 Tremain

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 Presbyterian Church, 2108 Collingwood Blvd. Entrance off Floyd
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