

WEST AVENUE GAZETTE

VOLUME 70, ONE

APRIL 20, 2010

www.westave.org

Mayor: Robert H. Smith II
Vice-Mayor: Tim Feehan

Secretary: John Fottrell
Treasurer: Earle Morrison

CALENDAR

Spring Cocktail Party Saturday, April 24th 6:00pm – 8:00 pm 1402 Park Ave.
70th Annual Spring Garden Tour 12noon - 5pm

Reminder: If you are going out of town for the weekend please be aware there will be No Parking on the 1100 block on Sunday, April 25th from 11:00am-7pm.

Towing enforced

Spring Garden Tour and Children's Parade

Mayor's Message

This Thursday, April 22nd, The Garden Club of Virginia will feature their Richmond Tour on West Avenue and the surrounding blocks. West Avenue will be blocked off with police present due to the high levels of traffic expected. It is my understanding that buses come from various parts of the State to tour the featured gardens. The Garden Club has passed out a blue "Company's Coming" announcement that should be used to identify yourself to the officers as a resident of the Street. This will cause some disruption in the neighborhood, however we are very proud of participating neighbors and welcome everyone to see how special this area is during the Spring.

Because of the high profile nature of this event, it would be very nice if we could have as many of the front yards and tree boxes ready by Thursday. Many already are, and West Avenue, Park Avenue, and Franklin are beginning to look their Spring best. Some of the neighbors have asked that residents fly flags if you have them, with their suggested focus being the American flag.

The Street was cleaned Tuesday morning and the sidewalks were swept prior to the cleaning. Please be conscious of the walkways by removing children's toys, recycle bins, and gardening tools during the event. Everyone would be appreciative.

The West Avenue Improvement Association 70th Annual Spring Garden Tour will be held this Sunday, April 25th from 1:00pm to 5 pm. Children's activities will begin at 12:00 noon. Please open your garden so that our tour will be a success. People love to stroll through our neighborhood and see how different everyone's backyards are decorated. If you would like to have your front yard, back yard or tree box judged please make them available for showing Saturday April 24th. A garden tour sign-up sheet is attached to this gazette and is also available for download on the website in the members area. Turn your completed sign-up sheet into Scott McLaughlin at 1124 West Avenue. If you have the means to do so, you may also send it to him electronically at scottmcsemail@gmail.com.

Finally, I want to thank everyone who attended the Spring Meeting, who helped on alley clean-up, who attended the hot dog party, and who has volunteered on the W.A.I.A. Spring Garden Tour events. Participation is extremely important to the success of any of these events, and makes our community a more pleasant place to live. Thank you again!

Robert

Garden Tour Signup

The 70th tour is just around the corner; please open your garden for judging on Saturday, April 24th and for the tour Sunday, April 25th. Sign-up sheet is attached.

Spring Cocktail Party and Silent Auction

This year's spring cocktail party is being held at the home of Sarah and Cheairs Porter. Elizabeth McLaughlin and Lili O'Brien will be this year's hostesses. Please bring an hors d'oeuvre to share and your libation of choice; a bartender will be provided. Winners of the garden tour will be announced and receive their awards. There will also be the annual silent auction where you can bid a plethora of coveted items. This year Andrea Erda and Suzanne Carley are chairing the committee to get together items and organize the auction. If you have items to donate or can help solicit items for the auction, please contact them. Andrea can be contacted at afishindc@aol.com and Suzanne at suzecarley@gmail.com. In the past, neighbors have donated bike tours, horseback riding, clothing, jewelry, and other items. Also, neighbors have secured certificates from their favorite restaurants. So please consider a fun way to participate.

Garden Judging

This year's judging of gardens will be Saturday, April 24th starting at 8am. I encourage you all to have your gardens judged. Our judges come from varying backgrounds and offer helpful tips on improving your garden – for free! The Gillette criterion, developed for the WAIA by renowned Virginia landscape architect Charles Gillette, is used for the judging guideline. The criterion can be downloaded from the WAIA website in the members section.