

# WEST AVENBOO GAZETTE

VOLUME 68, SIX

OCTOBER 14, 2009

[www.westave.org](http://www.westave.org)

Mayor: Alan J. "Marty" Martin  
Vice-Mayor: Robert Smith

Secretary: Tim Feehan  
Treasurer: Earle Morrison

## CALENDAR

Fall Meeting – Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm-9:00pm – St. James Rm 304 (New Bldg.)

Halloween – Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

Street Closed - 4:00pm-9:00pm

Trick or Treating starts at 5:00pm

Costume Contest starts at 7:00pm

Fall Alley Cleanup – Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> 8:00am-12:00pm

Fall Cocktail Party – Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm-8:00pm – Martin's 1135 West Ave.

## Mayor's Message

Well summer is gone, leaves are changing, fresh vegetables are all but history, days are shorter; ok, you get the point. Fall is here and a lot of activities are happening in the near future. First, the annual **Fall Meeting** is next Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in room 304 of the new St. James building. There will be a representative from both the local police precinct and the VCU police department. I will be discussing our negotiations with VCU about obtaining an updated MOU concerning VCU expansion west of N. Harrison, and parking issues. I encourage you to make plans to attend if you can.

Second, **Halloween** is Saturday the 31<sup>st</sup>. This is really the second biggest event for the neighborhood, garden tour being the first. The street will be closed from 4:00pm until 9:00pm with trick or treating starting at 5:00pm. The costume contest will begin at 7:00pm. I have recruited 3 independent judges for this year's festivities. There will be awards for:

### Pumpkin Carving and House Decorations Costume Contest

Grand, second, and third

- Tiny Ghouls – age 3 and under,
- Little Ghouls – ages 4 through 7,
- Ghoulish Kids – ages 8 through 12,
- Teen Ghouls – ages 13 through 19,
- Monster Ghouls – adults,
- Group Ghouls – parties of 2 or more,
- Sweepstakes Winner – the best from the winners above.

Tom Stallings from the 1500 block has agreed to be the Grand Goblin and emcee the costume contest. Be sure and get your houses and costumes ready.

The following weekend, Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup>, is **Alley Cleanup** and the fall cocktail party. D Walton has, once again, arranged for a garbage truck, coffee, and donuts for the alley cleanup. We will meet behind D's house (1507 West) at 8:00am. Bring your racks, shovels, brooms, but mostly yourselves. We had a great turnout for the last alley cleanup and I would like to see that again this time. This is a great way to meet neighbors and make our neighborhood a cleaner place.

That evening at 6:00pm is the **Fall Cocktail Party**. As tradition holds it will be held at the mayor's house so please join us at 1135 West Ave. for the festivities. Bring your hors d'oeuvre to share and libation of choice, mixers and a bartender will be provided. There is a \$5.00 charge for each person in attendance.

Marty

### **Postal Delivery**

Most of you may be aware that our ever efficient and friendly mail carrier, Sam, has retired. The post office has not, and evidently has no plans to, replace him. Instead they have designated our neighborhood as an auxiliary route, meaning that we do not have a permanent mail carrier. I have been informed that there have been a number of problems with mail delivered to wrong houses. Please let me know so we can try and work with the post office on getting better service if the problem continues.

### **Newspaper Theft**

I and many of you have had our morning newspaper stolen recently. I caught the man the other morning and I warned him that I knew who he was now and, if I heard of another paper being stolen, I would turn him in to the police. He's homeless, and I feel sorry for him but, it's not just an inconvenience to us, our carrier is back charged the cost of the paper if they have to redeliver. So if the stealing continues, let me know.

### **70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!**

The 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the WAIA is in 2011. Some of you may remember the 60<sup>th</sup> black-tie party held on the street to celebrate the event. There was a band, catered food, and lots of neighbors and former neighbors in attendance. We would like to repeat that for the 70<sup>th</sup>. As you can imagine this is a huge undertaking and volunteers are desperately needed to form a committee(s) to get ready. I will have the luxury of being a former mayor for the event but I have the responsibility of getting the ball rolling. So, if you are interested in participating on a committee, please let me know as soon as you can ([martymartin@comcast.net](mailto:martymartin@comcast.net)).

### **Garden Tour Chair!**

Scott McLaughlin has graciously agreed to be the chair for next year's 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Garden Tour. Scott will be seeking a co-chair and volunteers for the event. Please plan to help where you can and join me in thanking him for accepting this responsibility.

### **Membership Form**

Yes, I want to support and be a member of the WAIA. Enclosed is cash or a check (made payable to WAIA) for annual dues in the amount of \$20.00.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone/E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail or hand deliver to:  
Earle Morrison  
1302 Park Avenue