

FROM YOUR ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT

I want to thank Tony Fischer for his three years of service to our community as President of the Assembly. I appreciate all of Tony's hours of work and effort to make East Walnut Hills a better place to live, work and shop.

I also want to recognize the recent passing of Sue Fullen. For many years, Sue worked to beautify our neighborhood. She and a crew of volunteers planted and weeded our traffic islands and the



bed around the kiosk. Sue arranged for the planting and maintenance of the planters in our business district, and for professional help with some bigger projects. She and her husband Tom hung our holiday decorations and maintained our neighborhood entrance signs. Sue continued this

work even when she was struggling with cancer. Generous and kind, she will truly be missed.

We are continuing our monthly Assembly meetings in a virtual format. Please join us at 7pm on the first Wednesday of every month. I look forward to the time when we can meet again in person.

In addition to our meetings, we invite you to volunteer in our community. We hold monthly trash walks, in cooperation with our neighbors in Walnut Hills and Evanston. For those who like to garden, our beautification committee can always use an extra pair of hands. Community involvement is part of what makes East Walnut Hills a great place to live.

Finally, I would like to encourage you to support our local businesses. We value them and want them to be successful. They have struggled with the pandemic, and your patronage really makes a difference.

—Freeman Durham

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS THRIVE AT TRASH WALKS

The first Saturday of every month sees area residents and volunteers meeting to remove trash and tires from a neighborhood, rotating among East Walnut Hills, Evanston and Walnut Hills. We've been going strong for over 2 years now! Keep Cincinnati Beautiful sponsors these monthly events via its supplies and online volunteer sign-up.

During the pandemic, our joint efforts have resulted in the collection of over 435 bags of litter and 45 tires! We are a regular volunteer event for businesses such as Total Quality Logistics, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Triversity Construction, and Cincinnati Art Museum.

Starting as an initiative that allowed for exercise and socialization, we now are an established and

recognized event for corporate volunteer programs, community service hours, and family-friendly volunteering allowing children to learn community engagement.



EXPLORING HIDDEN NATURAL GEMS

There are so many green spaces—big and small—to explore in East Walnut Hills and the surrounding communities. While visiting the O’Byronville business district on Madison Rd., check out Owl’s Nest Park and its large greenspaces, grills, picnic area, sports fields, and pavilion. Heading west on Madison, you will find Annwood Park—great for reading, relaxing, and enjoying the grotto waterfall. Continue west on Madison and turn left onto Moorman Ave. to visit the Moorman Playground, with its playground, grill and picnic area.

Next stop: the Ohio River. There are lots of great views of the river to explore, but you can also head down to the river on foot or by car by heading west down William Howard Taft Rd. to Collins Ave. Head down Collins to Riverside Dr. and you are there. Also, check out the LeBlond Regional Recreation Center and Park alongside the river. From there, you can travel west a few miles to Smale Riverfront Park and downtown or east to Columbia Tusculum.

Bonus trip: Walk or drive to the recently opened Tom Jones Commons in Eden Park. There you’ll find wetlands and an accessible boardwalk, a picnic shelter, natural play area, and welcome kiosk with histories of the park and its attractions.

Owl’s Nest Park: 1984 Madison Rd.

Annwood Park: 1900 Madison Rd.

Moorman Playground: 2611 Moorman St.

LeBlond Recreation Center: 2335 Riverside Dr.

Tom Jones Commons: Eden Park just south of Mirror Lake, 950 Eden Park Dr.



REMEMBER...

You can have a cup of coffee,
look at some amazing art,
plan your wedding,
(and then chill out with some CBD oil).

Get your teeth cleaned,
buy a facial scrub or bath bomb;
get your hair cut,
or become the radio DJ
you always wanted to be.

In East Walnut Hills, you can...
enjoy a great meal,
a craft cocktail,
or a cold beer.
You can tone your body
and work on your cardio,
or buy a locally made gift.

In East Walnut Hills,
you can satisfy your craving
for our city’s favorite chili dish,
and indulge in all the desserts.
You can play your favorite board game,
or have some cheese
(made with local milk, of course).

Get your body waxed
or rent a power tool.
Find a real estate agent,
enjoy the view,
go to church,
and attend school at any age!
Sign your children up for music lessons,
while getting a sun-free tan.
You can take a yoga class,
go for a walk in the park,
get a massage,
and have your favorite bowl of ramen.

Of course you can meet all of your pet’s needs...
right here in our own neighborhood!

Explore the neighborhood.
Shop locally.

It’s all right here in East Walnut Hills!

—Simon Coriell
President of the EWHA Business Association

COMMUNITY MURAL: AN URBAN OASIS



Last fall, the Carol Ann & Ralph V. Haile, Jr. Foundation informed The East Walnut Hills Assembly Board that it had been selected to receive an unrestricted grant to support the operations of the Assembly Board. The Board decided to use the grant to do something lasting and special that would both benefit and engage EWH community members. After some brainstorming, the Board decided to use the funds to create a mural on the long concrete wall on the corner of Taft and Woodburn. At a monthly public meeting of the EWH Assembly members, attendees enthusiastically agreed. Ellen Stedtefeld, along with a steering committee of EWH stakeholders and artists, agreed to lead the mural process from start to finish.

First challenge: what should be included in the mural—what makes EWH special? Over 100 people contributed their ideas in an online survey in March 2021.

That information was used to shape the second challenge: finding an artist to create the design. After a lengthy vetting process by the committee, three artists, with mural design and community engagement experience, were selected to submit concept designs for the mural. The community weighed in with an online vote for their favorite design. After close to 700 votes were tallied, James Billiter's design "An Urban Oasis" was the clear winner.

Billiter posed the third challenge: he asked the community to weigh in online with suggestions

for what elements should be included in the final design. Billiter, working with three other artists, Anissa Pulcheon, Maria Nacu and Michael Colbert, added new elements and refined the concept design based on that community feedback.

Fourth challenge: painting the mural. On August 28 and September 4, over 100 community volunteers came together for the two big paint days (smaller painting sessions occurred as well).

This is how Billiter describes the finished mural: "Creating a detailed 'seek and find' scene that engages the residents to find their part of the neighborhood as well as inviting them to explore parts of the neighborhood they haven't visited yet. Illustrations feature buildings from the neighborhood mixed with icons of local culture. For motorists, larger typography and visuals invite them to visit the neighborhood with an abundance of visuals."

An official day celebrating the completion of the mural and a very successful community project took place in the fall. The East Walnut Hills Assembly Board thanks the Carol Ann & Ralph V. Haile, Jr. Foundation, the artists, and all the volunteers for creating a mural that captures the beauty of the built and natural environment of EWH, its history and its rich cultural diversity.

Challenges accepted and successfully met! Congratulations to all. Please head to our website for more information on the mural process and the artists involved.



AL FRESCO OPTIONS

There are so many ways to enjoy our neighborhood, and it's only getting better! East Walnut Hills has been growing lately, and our residents are especially excited about the number of restaurants that offer outdoor seating.

Branch and Nightdrop offer a unique combination that has attracted the city's attention. Head chef Jared Bennett offers Branch guests an exceptional farm-to-table experience that is ready to wow. With a deep history, this former bank building was remodeled down to the studs to create something that is bound to create its own unique history.

If you have some time to kill before your reservation or need a casual meeting spot, Nightdrop is the cozy bar in the basement beneath Branch.

Woodburn Brewing is another option for those looking to be outside without leaving the neighborhood. With new ownership and recent renovations, this local watering hole now offers a satisfying, reimagined food menu, including many delightful smoked items freshly crafted behind the building.

This local brewery has both a patio and a beer garden with a total capacity of just under 300. There is no lack of space here, which bodes well for those who are hesitant about being in close quarters with others.

SYMPOSIUM: A CONVIVIAL GATHERING COMING SOON

Symposium, a new "wine-centric cantina," is coming to the corner of Woodburn Ave. and Madison Rd., offering both indoor space and outdoor seating on the plaza.

Two culinary veterans, J Matt Nickels and Chef Aaron Owen, are creating a coffee shop by day/wine bar by evening that's destined to really complement our current restaurant/bar scene, offering a perfect pre- or post-date/dinner/anything to grab a coffee, wine, or a bite to eat.



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This newsletter is a production of the Communications Committee on behalf of the East Walnut Hills Assembly, your official neighborhood council. Questions? Please get in touch:

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