

WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE

CENTERED.

WestSide Neighborhood Alliance Fall Newsletter



Welcome to the second edition of the WestSide Neighborhood Alliance newsletter!

We're super excited to share all the things we've been working on, and all the things upcoming for the remainder of 2026.

Many of our programs and annual events are continuing as usual, but we do have a few exciting announcements to share.

Some of the good news:

- New computer lab opening
- Skate Night at the Center with Rental Skates available!
- Trunk or Treat Event 10/31
- Vintage Sock Hop Dance 11/14
- Holiday Dinner 12/17

Our Volunteers, Our Commitment to Community

We are always on the lookout for folks who want to make a difference. Reach out today at info@westsidenow.org and help us make 2027 the best year yet for the West Side!



WSNA is proud of the dedicated volunteers and instructors who make our programs and activities possible. To help maintain a safe and trustworthy environment, our organization follows a volunteer/instructor screening process that includes background checks. This commitment reflects our responsibility to the community and our dedication to ensuring that the Westside Community Center remains a welcoming place for all.

Community Survey

We want to hear from you!

We released a new community survey to help us plan our programming to better suit the needs and desires of the West Side. If you'd like to fill out the survey, you can find printed copies in person at the Community Center, or fill out the virtual survey on our website.

We appreciate and love this community and look forward to serving you even better!

[WWW.WESTSIDENOW.ORG](https://www.westsidenow.org)

THE HEART OF THE WEST SIDE: WHY OUR COMMUNITY CENTER MATTERS



Living on the West Side comes with perks. Scenic views, tight-knit neighborhoods, and a peaceful pace of life. But rural living can also mean added miles whenever we need access to resources, events, or education. That's why the West Side Community Center is an important part of our community.

Staying Connected Without the Commute

For many needs, the only option is making the drive into Salisbury. Whether it's attending civic meetings, seeking adult education, or finding recreational activities for the kids, those miles add up in time and gas. The West Side Community Center provides a space where we can gather for meetings, catch up on news, and stay informed about issues without spending half the evening on Route 349.

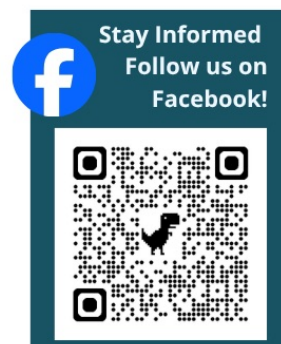
Growth, Enrichment, and Fun for All Ages

A strong community center is a launcher for opportunity and recreation. Through WSNA's ongoing initiatives and partnerships, our center is actively expanding what's possible close to home:

- **Education & Skills:** Programs like our upcoming Computer Lab and onsite GED classes (in partnership with Wor-Wic Community College) break down geographic barriers to adult education and career readiness.
- **Youth & Recreation:** From youth soccer to community gatherings, local programming gives kids and families safe, accessible places to stay active and build lifelong friendships.
- **Events & Celebration:** From seasonal get-togethers to workshop rentals, the center provides a welcoming setting for fun, connection, and celebration.

Building Resilience and Stronger Neighborhoods

Decades of social research confirm what we already know: communities with strong local hubs are safer, healthier, and more resilient. Local centers foster "social capital", the trust, shared support, and mutual care that bind a neighborhood together. When we gather under one roof, whether to learn a new skill, discuss local issues, or cheer on youth sports, we build a network of support that reaches far beyond the center's walls. By supporting and utilizing the West Side Community Center, we aren't just saving a trip into Salisbury, we are actively investing in the future, independence, and spirit of Wicomico County's West Side.



WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!

BIG NEWS, West Side!

With the help of this community, we were able to accomplish our fundraising goals for the upcoming GED programming we are hosting in partnership with Wor-Wic College.

We're so grateful that we're now able to completely cover the cost of tuition and testing fees for each student.

Not only will each student have their learning sponsored, but we were able to purchase brand new computers to help them with their learning and success.

Separately, we are now able to create a Computer Lab that can be used by the entire community! All computers have the most up to date software (Windows 11) and Microsoft Office 365. Stay tuned for future Computer Classes and Open Lab times to utilize the Wifi/Computers for personal use.

It's amazing to see how powerful our community is and the huge difference we can make in each other's lives when we come together.

Thank you sincerely to everyone who donated money and resources to WSNA, and thank you to everyone who donated to our GoFundMe Campaign in support of a WestSide Computer Lab and GED program.

None of this would be possible without the incredible support of our community. We are so grateful for each and every one of our neighbors, no matter how you contribute, your support makes a difference! ❤️



GED Program in Patnership with Wor-Wic Community College

This has been a really exciting announcement for us and we're grateful for you all and your support of this initiative. We're also incredibly excited for and proud of the students starting their journey. We're looking forward to being with them every step of the way!

We're set to schedule the Winter semester with Wor-Wic starting in January, so if your or someone you know is interested in getting more information, please reach out to us! More information will be released soon including ways to sign-up, official registration day, and the course start and end dates.

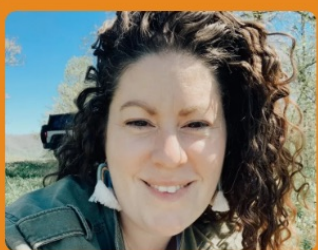
Meet the WSNA Team & Volunteers

Get to know the faces around the Community Center

WSNA Board Members



Cameryn Miller
Chairwoman



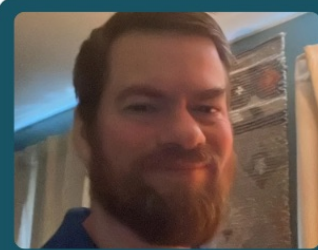
Hannah Korschgen
Secretary



Viki Hochschwender
Board Treasurer



Taylor Dittmar
Communications Chair



Matthew Korschgen
Outreach Chair



Rebecca Green
Buildings Chair



Nancy Rogers
Ex Officio



Loralie Parks
Secretary

VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER: KARLA BEARDSLEY

To say that Karla Beardsley has a vested interest in making sure WSNA is a success would be an understatement. The Beardsley girls had fun at WSCC and now so do their grandchildren. It makes sense that Karla (and Earl) would want to keep the tradition going for all of us!!

Karla was an early member of the Programs Committee and hosts one of our most popular programs, Lunch & Learn. Held each Friday from 11:30 to 12:30, Karla will arrange experts of local history, show and tell's, presentations on a variety of subjects, or sessions with no particular topic but a general discussion of your choosing. You can bring a lunch if you like or enjoy a healthy snack provided by Karla.



What We've Been Up To at the WSCC



SCOOPS & TUNES

Held on 8/22/26 as an end of summer bash, this years event had something for everyone!

The rain forced us inside, but the ice cream was no less yummy, the kids ran around proudly wearing their awesome new school backpacks, the West Side Troubadours had us swaying & singing along, and the silent auction brought much anticipation as the bidders jockeyed for the win.

It was especially fun watching kids of all ages adhering bits & pieces to brown paper bags to create spectacular crazy hats!

Our heartfelt gratitude to the many volunteers that helped clean & prep beforehand, that manned the various stations during and that pitched in to clean up afterwards. You all rock!



FIBER FRIENDS

Years before WSNA existed, a group of local women met weekly to knit, crochet and chat, calling themselves the Knit Wits.

New folks joined the group to share their interests and knowledge, or came just to learn. No longer simply knitters and crocheters, the current group includes weavers, quilters, felters, and other fiber arts. In keeping with their expanding interests, Fiber Friends was born.

Fiber Friends meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, from 10:30 to 12:30 in the classroom of the Community Center.

Everyone and all levels are welcome. Just grab your latest project and come! Or, if you are looking to learn a new fiber, these gals are willing teachers!



BACKYARD BIRDS LECTURE SERIES

Ginny Walker, local resident and bird lover shares her knowledge about the birds we see right here in our backyard as the seasons change. The lectures happen for an hour about once a month. Keep an eye out on our website or Facebook for the next session in the series!



COMPUTER LAB COMING SOON!

The West Side Community Center will soon have a Computer Lab.

With our coming GED program launching WSNA needed to provide computers for the program. This was the perfect reason to also create our own computer lab.

This new space will be designed to allow community members the opportunity to access a computer and the internet for free.

Computer literacy classes as well as other fun events are planned in the future. Stay tuned!

LEGO BUILDING PARTY

One Saturday a month, we get together in the Classroom to push the limits of our imagination using Legos.

This event is for everyone, of all ages and all abilities!

All Legos are provided and the event is completely free. All you need to do it show up ready to have fun.

We love to see your creations and spend time in this supportive and lighthearted environment.

Art Night Backstage! Program Spotlight



"One of our goals at WSNA is to create opportunities for people to come together in ways that are meaningful, welcoming, and a little different. Art Night is a wonderful example of how creativity can bring people together, spark new friendships, and breathe new life into our shared community spaces. We're thrilled to partner with Michael to bring this experience to the West Side."

-Cameryn L. Miller, Chair, WestSide Neighborhood Alliance



Where Creativity and Community Come Together

WSNA is excited to partner with local artist Michael Lankford to bring Art Night Backstage to the Westside Community Center! This unique program invites adults of all artistic abilities to gather, unwind, and rediscover the simple joy of creating in the company of others.

For several years, Michael Lankford has cultivated Art Night in Salisbury, creating a welcoming environment where artistic expression flourishes without competition, comparison, or expectations. Now, WSNA is proud to bring this creative experience to the West Side, offering our community another opportunity to connect through the arts.

Unlike traditional art classes, Art Night isn't about following instructions or producing a finished masterpiece. Instead, it embraces the concept of "parallel play," where participants explore their own creative interests while enjoying the shared energy of a welcoming, social environment. Whether it's painting, collage, adult coloring books, modeling clay, or another creative pursuit, everyone is encouraged to participate in whatever way inspires them.

Thanks to the generosity of participants who have donated art supplies, along with additional materials purchased by WSNA, attendees will have access to a wide variety of artistic mediums to explore and enjoy.

Set in a specially prepared backstage space at the Community Center, the evening will feature music, conversation, creativity, and the opportunity to meet new friends and neighbors. Light refreshments will be provided, and participants are welcome to bring a dish or snack to share.

More Than Art, It's About Connection

At its heart, Art Night is about something bigger than artistic expression. It's about reclaiming the importance of community gathering spaces, fostering meaningful connections, and providing opportunities for people to come together outside of their daily routines in a 3rd space.

Programs like Art Night reflect WSNA's ongoing commitment to making the Westside Community Center a vibrant, inclusive gathering place where residents can discover new interests, build friendships, and strengthen their sense of community.

No artistic experience is necessary, and there are no expectations, just bring your curiosity, creativity, and a willingness to enjoy an evening among neighbors!

Art Night Backstage! is open to adults ages 18 and older, from complete beginners to experienced artists. We look forward to seeing the creativity and connections that unfold!

1st & 3rd Friday's of the Month



Weekly Programs at the Community Center

At the WestSide Neighborhood Alliance, our goal is simple: to enrich the lives of our residents through programs that spark connection and excitement. Whether you're looking to learn a new skill or meet your neighbors, there is always something brewing at the West Side Community Center. While we are constantly adding new events to the mix, we offer several regular weekly and monthly programs designed to keep our community active and engaged.

Stay in the Loop

- **See the Schedule:** Check out the schedule to the right of this article for a snapshot of our weekly and monthly activities.
- **Go Digital:** For the most up-to-date information and future dates, a full weekly schedule is always available at www.westsidenow.org, or check out our Facebook page.
- **Check Out the Marquee:** We post upcoming events on our marquee board located on Route 349 at the entrance to Cedar Hill Park.

SCHEDULE

WEST SIDE COMMUNITY CENTER

WEEKLY

TUES | YOGA
9:30-10:30 AM

WED | PICK-UP
BASKETBALL
7:00-9:00 PM

THUR | YOUTH SOCCER
(AGES 6-10)
6:00-7:00 PM

FRI | YOGA
9:30-10:30 AM
LUNCH & LEARN
11:30-12:30 PM

MONTHLY

HOBBY NIGHT
FIRST TUESDAYS

ART NIGHT BACKSTAGE
FIRST AND THIRD
FRIDAYS

BINGO
SECOND FRIDAYS

FIBER FRIENDS
SECOND WEDNESDAYS

ROLLER SKATE NIGHT
FIRST SATURDAYS

BOOK CLUB
FOURTH WEDNESDAYS

New Programs and Events

YOGA IS BACK!

We are thrilled to announce that Heather Martin will be resuming her yoga classes at the Center.

The cost is still \$10 per person and the times are Tuesday or Friday at 9:30 AM.

Please bring your own towel and water bottle. Chairs, mats, and blocks can be provided.



YOUTH SOCCER- WESTSIDE WANDERERS

WSNA has been holding indoor youth soccer in the gym every Thursday due to the summer heat.

Now that the fall is coming and weather is cooling back down, we've been heading back outside!

Our Westside Wanders have been competing with other teams in the area on the weekends, and we're so proud of them!

We're looking to make more teams next season, so if you know any local kids who love sports, bring them down, we'd love to have them!



SKATE NIGHT

Once a month we have free open skate night with music, lights, and the whole experience.

Now- we'll even be renting skates! We have tons of rentals and in a variety of sizes so everyone in the family can join. Rentals will only be \$3 a pair!

FOOD BANK

Just a reminder that there's a new location: the West Side Community Center!

Now, a Food Bank truck will be on-site, welcoming residents to come inside and select the food they need. Dates will be posted on our marquee every month so keep an eye out!



HOBBY NIGHT

Never have enough space at home for your projects? Come out to our open space for hobbyists!

Bring your current projects and work alongside other makers. If you need an extra hand, or pair of eyes, the crew will be there to help.

Drop in the first Tuesday of every month any time between 5:30-8:00 PM

COMING SOON

VINTAGE SOCK HOP IN NOVEMBER

With a new sound system WSNA is excited to start offering dances at the center again.

Our first dance will be a Vintage Sock Hop on Saturday, November 14th! From 7-9:30 PM everyone is invited to dress your best and cut a rug with us.

There will also be a 50/50 raffle, prizes for best dressed, and a chance to grab food at the Sock Hop Diner! It's going to be a blast and tickets are only \$5 a pop. Don't miss out!



2026 HOLIDAY DINNER

First started over 60 years ago by the Lions Club, this beloved West Side tradition lives on at the West Side Community Center! WSNA invites the entire community to join us for a 100% FREE holiday dinner packed with festive fun on December 17th. Enjoy a delicious warm meal, live carols, a fun holiday theme, free toys for the kids, and a very special visit from Santa Claus himself! Come celebrate the season with your neighbors and keep this wonderful tradition strong.



Protecting the Place We Call Home

"THE WEST SIDE COMMUNITY HAS A UNIQUE CONNECTION TO THE NANTICOKE AND THE WATERWAYS THAT SURROUND US. PARTNERING WITH THE NANTICOKE WATERSHED ALLIANCE GIVES OUR RESIDENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO TURN THEIR LOCAL KNOWLEDGE INTO MEANINGFUL ACTION AND HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF THE PLACE WE CALL HOME."

- CAMERYN MILLER, CHAIR, WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE



WSNA Partners with the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance

The WestSide Neighborhood Alliance (WSNA) is proud to announce a new partnership with the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance (NWA), an organization dedicated to conserving the natural, cultural, and recreational resources of the Nanticoke River Watershed through collaboration, education, science, and community involvement.

For those of us who call the West Side home, the Nanticoke River and its surrounding waterways are much more than features on a map. They are part of our landscape, our history, our recreation, our local economy, and our way of life. Protecting the health of these waterways and addressing concerns such as water quality, pollution, erosion, drainage, and flooding, is directly connected to protecting the communities that surround them. That is why this partnership is so meaningful to WSNA.

NWA is currently working to develop a Watershed-Based Plan for the Lower Nanticoke River. The plan will identify sources of pollution, evaluate water-quality needs, identify potential restoration and improvement projects, and establish strategies for improving the health of the watershed. Once completed and approved, the plan can also help position important local projects for future funding opportunities.

Local Voices Are an Important Part of the Plan

One of the most important aspects of this effort is community involvement. NWA recognizes that the people who live, work, farm, own property, recreate, and spend their lives along the Nanticoke possess knowledge that cannot be gathered from maps and data alone.

West Side residents know where flooding occurs after a heavy rain. They know where shorelines and ditches are eroding, where drainage has changed, where water quality may be a concern, and which areas of our community deserve attention. The watershed planning process calls for stakeholder input to help identify problem areas and potential solutions, with public feedback incorporated into the development of the plan.

Through our partnership, WSNA is helping bring that process directly to the community by hosting NWA stakeholder meetings at the West Side Community Center. We believe the Community Center should be a place where residents can learn about issues affecting the West Side, share their experiences, and have a voice in decisions and projects that may shape our community's future.

Upcoming Stakeholder Meetings- West Side Community Center

Community members, landowners, farmers, local organizations, and anyone interested in the future of the Lower Nanticoke are encouraged to attend the upcoming stakeholder meetings:

Wednesday, October 21, 2026 6:00-8:00 PM

Wednesday, December 2, 2026 6:00-8:00 PM

These meetings are an opportunity to learn more about the watershed planning process, identify areas of concern, share local knowledge and experiences, and help shape priorities for future projects.

The Nanticoke is one of the Chesapeake Bay region's significant natural resources and is the most biologically diverse watershed on Delmarva. Protecting it requires not only scientific expertise, but also strong partnerships and the participation of the communities that know it best.

WSNA is proud to support the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance and to help ensure that the voices of our West Side communities are part of this important work. Together, we can help protect the waterways, landscapes, and communities that make the West Side such a special place to call home - for today and for generations to come.

Learn More

For more information about the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance, visit: <https://nanticokeriver.org/>

Upcoming Programs and Events



**LOCAL FINDS
AUTUMN
VIBES**

EXPLORE HANDMADE TREASURES
AND MEET THE MAKERS BEHIND
THEM.

**FALL CRAFT
MARKET**

OCT 24 | 10-2PM

WEST SIDE COMMUNITY CENTER
21109 BIVALVE LODGE ROAD, BIVALVE,
MD 21814

SHOP SMALL, SUPPORT
LOCAL ARTISANS, AND
COZY UP YOUR
AUTUMN! 🍂

WSNA
Westside Neighborhood Alliance



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Westside Neighborhood Alliance

**TRUNK OR
TREAT**

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Join us for a fun-filled
Halloween evening! Fun
for the entire family

OCTOBER 31, 2026

*Registered Trunks
set-up starts at 5:00 PM
Public event time 6:30 PM – 9:00
PM

West Side Community Center,
Bivalve, MD

Candy - Costume Fun - Crafts - Photo Booth

Highlights:

- Haunted House (Family Friendly)
- Costume Parade: 8pm
- Trunk Awards, Costume Awards: 8:30pm

**FOOD & DRINK PROVIDED
BY WSNA**

*To host a Trunk, Please register at:
<https://westsidenow.org>



Cash Prizes Food

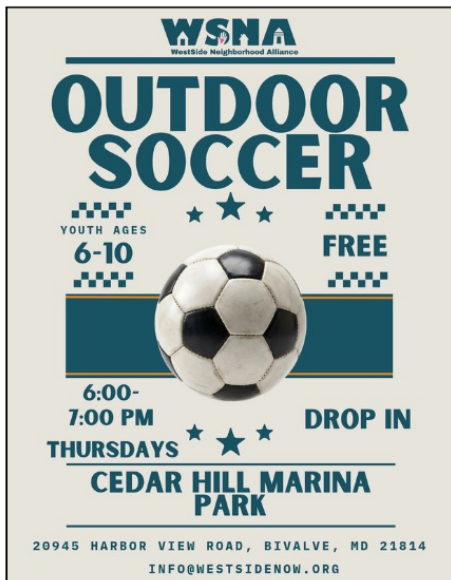
**NIGHT
BINGO**

13 65 27 62 14
2 75 31 19 43
74 12 45 81 84
2 4 62 52 10
94 5 18 34 73

**2nd Friday every month!
7:00-9:00 PM
West Side Community Center**

18+ Welcome
Daubers Available
Cash prize EVERY game
\$20 Admission
\$5 for each additional book

WSNA
Westside Neighborhood Alliance



WSNA
Westside Neighborhood Alliance

**OUTDOOR
SOCCER**

YOUTH AGES
6-10

FREE

**6:00-
7:00 PM**

THURSDAYS

DROP IN

**CEDAR HILL MARINA
PARK**

20945 HARBOR VIEW ROAD, BIVALVE, MD 21814
info@westsidenow.org



**ART NIGHT
Backstage**

Friday
6:00-9:00PM
All Skill Levels

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Every 1st & 3rd Friday

The Westside Neighborhood Alliance is partnering with local
artist **Michael Lankford** to host "Art Night: Backstage" at the
West Side Community Center, bringing the creativity back into
our local adult third spaces.

Supplies: Feel free to bring your own supplies, or use the communal
ones provided by WSNA.

Food & Drink: WSNA will provide refreshments including tea, coffee, and
water. You are also welcome to bring a potluck item to share with the
group!

westsidenow.org info@westsidenow.org



Are you ready to dive into the wonderful world of
knitting? What about other fiber arts and crafts?
Whether you're a complete beginner or looking to
refine your skills, our group is the perfect
opportunity to learn and create in a fun and
supportive environment.

**JOIN THE
FIBER
FRIENDS**

**EVERY SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
10:30AM - 12:30**

WEST SIDE COMMUNITY CENTER CLASSROOM

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Basic Knitting Techniques - Reading Patterns -
- Project Completion
- Help provided for questions/problems

FREE - Adults
NO REGISTRATION NEEDED - DROP IN
No food or Open Containers Please

WSNA
Westside Neighborhood Alliance



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Westside Neighborhood Alliance

**ROLLER SKATE
Night**

BRING YOUR OWN
INDOOR SKATES OR
RENT SKATES FROM
WSNA!

COME ENJOY THE
MUSIC AND OPEN SKATE
NIGHT

18+

**ONE SATURDAY
A MONTH
6-10 PM**



Hobby Night

Bring your current works in progress and enjoy
time with other creators!

1st Tuesday of every month
Ages 13+

5:30-8:00 PM

For questions email us: info@westsidenow.org

WSNA
Westside Neighborhood Alliance



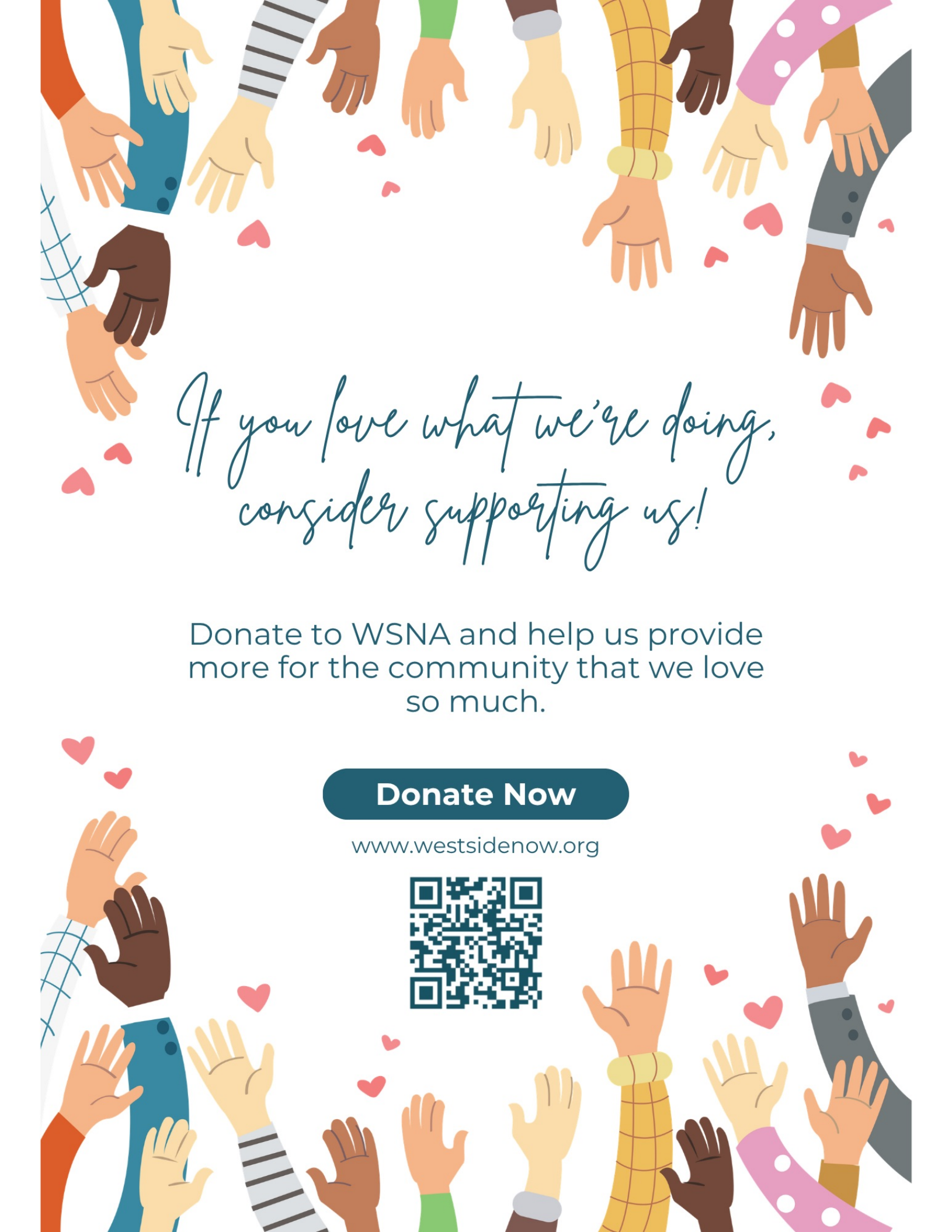
**LEGO
BRICKS & BLOCKS**

BUILDING PARTY AT WSCC

**ONE SATURDAY A
MONTH!
1:00-3:00 PM**

FOR ALL ABILITIES

- FREE
- Friendly and supportive
- LEGO blocks provided
- Open creativity building session
- Build & Release: We love seeing
your creations! Snap a photo of
your build before we break it
down to share the bricks with

An illustration featuring a variety of hands of different skin tones (brown, tan, yellow, orange) and sleeve patterns (solid colors, stripes, plaid, polka dots) reaching out from the top and bottom edges of the frame. Small pink hearts are scattered throughout the white background.

*If you love what we're doing,
consider supporting us!*

Donate to WSNA and help us provide
more for the community that we love
so much.

Donate Now

www.westsidenow.org

