731-281-4800

GLORIA'S From Page 10

going all in on their Union City homestead.

All in, involved one last acquisition. Abandoned by its most recent occupants, the badly neglected house next door had reached a point at which it was no longer inhabitable and well beyond repair. Julie convinced the city finally to condemn the structure and reached out to its owners who agreed to sell.

Julie and David quickly found themselves in possession of half a block of Union City property. Their home is now much more secure. The run-down structure next door will come down soon to be replaced by green space. The little house behind them, now fully renovated and lovingly furnished, is a guest house and vacation rental called Gloria's on Exchange-named after its former occupant. And that large vacant lot? Julie and David have some ideas, but for now it's more green space.

Other challenges remain and there's more work to do. Neighborhood activism has proven effective in at least this section of Union City, but Julie and an army of mobilized neighbors have not yet finished the fight.









