



# NANA NEWS

## OCTOBER 2000

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The North Avondale  
Neighborhood Association  
617 Clinton Springs Ave. (29)  
(513) 221-6166  
Volume XXXX, No. 2

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Coordinator: Charlene Morse  
Editor: Charlene Morse

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



To date, one of the things I've enjoyed most about being President of NANA is becoming acquainted with the District IV Police and attending the monthly District IV Police Resource Meeting.

The Meeting is held on the last Wednesday of the month at District IV Headquarters on Reading Road. Contact me with problems you would like me to raise at the meeting. It is not a large meeting. Captain Cotton and several other officers attend. Each neighborhood encompassed within District IV sends one or two representatives to the meeting. It is an informal meeting where solutions to neighborhood problems are discussed with the police.

I am employed as a criminal defense attorney with the Public Defenders office in Kentucky. At work the police are frequently my adversary, rarely working on the same side. The Resource Meetings are fun for me because the police and I are a team working together to make North Avondale a great place to live. Functioning on the same side is a nice change of pace.

Attending the Resource Meetings has also been enjoyable because I have learned that the District IV Police truly care about our neighborhood. District IV listens and acts on our concerns. When NANA points out areas where drug activity or prostitution may be occurring, District IV increases its patrolling of the area. When the Neighborhood was upset about loud ice cream trucks, District IV worked hard to quiet them down. When we were frustrated that Xavier students were ignoring parking restrictions, District IV beefed up its enforcement of them. The list goes on and on. District IV does this despite their limited resources and that North Avondale is only one of several neighborhoods for which they are responsible.

On behalf of North Avondale I want to thank Captain Cotton, Sergeant Deters, Sergeant Wiesman, Officer Cruse and all the District IV Police Officers for their concern and hard work. Their efforts truly help make North Avondale Cincinnati's best address.

*John*

**Lost:** From Burton Woods Lane on the very rainy Monday September 25<sup>th</sup>, a black cat with a white patch on his chest. Call the NANA Office at 221-6166 with any information. Thank you.

### HI TECH COMES TO N. A. COMMUNITY CENTER

By Gerry Kraus

Thanks to the donation of seven (7) state-of-the-art computers and one printer by GTECH Corporation, the North Avondale Community Center will be providing computer skills classes to youth (after school), to teens (in the evening) and to senior adults (in the morning). The former ballet room at the Center has been transformed to house this generous donation. GTECH Vice-President Steven Morgan stated, "We hope to increase the children's interest and proficiency in computers in



a safe and fun environment. At the same time we're providing them with the necessary tools to help them become competitive in school and in tomorrow's job market" — especially for youth who might otherwise not have an opportunity to learn how to use computers. Adds Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC) youth director Michael Thomas, "The accepting, open atmosphere of a recreation center presents the perfect environment to introduce young people to emerging technologies." And while the computer program is primarily for young people, computer skills classes will also be available in

*(Continued on page 2)*

### AGENDA

**OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 7:30P.M.**

**NANA GENERAL MEETING**

**NORTH AVONDALE COMMUNITY CENTER**

**617 CLINTON SPRINGS**

- I-71/LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM PRESENTATION (SEE PG. 3)
- CANDIDATES FORUM



## RECLAIMING 727 SHUTTLESWORTH - PART 2

By John Angelo

There's an old saying that winners join winners, and once you have a winning formula you can make anything happen. If that's true, then 727 S. Fred Shuttlesworth Circle has found a winning formula and winners are stepping up left and right.

It's Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> and outside a dismal, wet gray blanket engulfs the neighborhood... lingering yet another day after a full-weekend of dreary, sopping weather. But on S. Fred Shuttlesworth things haven't looked so bright in years. Lights are glowing at 727, fresh drywall is replacing trashed walls, graffiti-obscurities are vanishing behind skim coats, and trash is disappearing by the armload as volunteers and contractors race ahead in renovating the neighborhood's most notable and destructive drug house.

A Winning Formula... There's a Story Here

As support for the project grows, people are becoming more and more interested. Last Saturday, a Cincinnati Post photographer toured and snapped loads of pictures as Jason Williams and Shawn Anderson (teenaged grandchildren of Tommie Lewis), Erik Zimmerman, Jason Hill, Frank and I ripped out drop ceilings and knocked out water damaged walls (see picture). Watch for an article about the spirit of North Avondale around the second week of October. On October 3, Chris Balish, feature reporter for 12 WKRC-TV, will broadcast live from the house to share the story of the community's efforts with all of Cincinnati.

And certainly there's more to come. We are currently coordinating with Mayor Luken's office so Charlie can participate in the official ribbon cutting and house tour in November. We'll announce the details in next month's newsletter.

Winners joining Winners...

Counting value from financing, grants, product contributions and service contributions, we have raised over \$200,000 in value to invest back into 727. Add in all the community volunteer hours and you're close to a quarter of a million dollars! Incredible.

I'd like to recognize some more of the substantial contributions of our partners. First and foremost, kudos to Marvin Kraus. Marvin has generously donated scores of hours laboring over all contracts and keeping NANA safe from any complications (no matter how remote), which might arise. Kudos to Michael L. Maio, Esq. of Court Street Title Agency, Inc. who donated his services to research the title before NANA closed on the house. Kudos to John Wallen of Eastern Properties. As a roofer, John came highly recommended by many residents of North Avondale... and John has lived up to every one of those recommendations. He has not only installed an incredibly beautiful, durable roof at a tremendous price, but has also helped ferret out other great resources to keep costs down on the project.

Super kudos to John LaRowe and Home Depot. Home Depot has signed on to completely redesign and install a

beautiful new kitchen... starting with the complete contribution of the exquisite, solid wood cabinetry. Kudos to Wilfong's Heating & Air Conditioning who are donating a portion of the new furnace and central air conditioning. Kudos to Erik Zimmerman, Geoff Barnes and Comey & Shepherd. The community-minded real estate agency has agreed to substantially reduce its fees to sell the house, and have also agreed to prominently promote it through their website virtual tours and other high profile avenues.

Winners joining winners. It's the tenacity and spirit which makes the difference. If you would like to volunteer on the project or you know of a company which might be interested in participating as a partner, contact me at 281-6644.



(Continued from page 1)

the morning to senior adults who came of age educationally before the Age of Computers.

GTECH, a Rhode Island based corporation, is the world's leading supplier of hi tech systems and services to the lottery industry, conducting business in 24 states as well as internationally. Its goal of community involvement is to enrich and strengthen the communities in which it conducts business. In order to provide educational opportunities for technological expertise to minority and underprivileged children ages 5 to 15, GTECH launched its "After School Advantage Program" in April 1999. To date forty-five (45) computer centers have been installed in schools and community centers in 14 states where GTECH offices are located. For each computer center GTECH donates an average of \$20,000 in state-of-the-art computers, on-line technology, computer software and volunteer hours to the selected after-school programs.

In a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by GTECH and CRC officials, Cincinnati Mayor Charlie Luken officially launched the North Avondale Community Center into the world of hi tech. Center Director Gene Caldwell stated that in addition to CRC staff computer specialists Karen Smith and Ann James, students skilled in computer technology from Xavier University and the University of Cincinnati will provide volunteer computer expertise. The class hours will be as follows:

Youth (Kdg. 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	Mon.-Wed., & Fri.	3 - 5:30 PM
Teens (7 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	Mon.-Wed., & Fri.	5:30 - 8 PM
Seniors	Mon.-Wed.	10 AM - 12 Noon

For more information call Gene Caldwell (or CRC computer specialists Karen Smith or Ann James) at 961-1584.

**BURTON SCHOOL,  
NORTH AVONDALE'S NEIGHBORHOOD  
SCHOOL**  
By Johnny Taylor

Johnny Taylor, now chair of the PTO, and of the LSDMC (Local School Decision Making Committee), is excited about the School's new and expanding programs.

The Gear Up program has been launched in partnership with the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati State College, Wilberforce and the Cincinnati Youth Collaborative. It is designed to provide intensive science and math instruction.

Mr. Wyly, who has been principal at Burton for three years, says Gear Up was up and running in December of last year and he saw a lot of growth among students by the end of the school year. The program was made possible by a federal grant that will provide funding over a five-year period.

The school's tutoring program has been expanded with H.O.S.T.S., a program that brings 36 tutors from Xavier University and a number of corporate executives to classrooms for daily tutoring under the supervision of teachers.

Mr. Taylor believes that parent involvement is key to this and other improvements being made in the school's programs. It has been such an emotional uplift to the entire school to know there is somebody there to help such students.

**REVERSE THE BLIGHT**  
By Pauline Daly & Jean Wilson

We should expect all owners of property in the neighborhood to be responsible in managing that property. There may be many reasons for becoming an owner but there are no exceptions to fulfilling that responsibility. When the property owner shows disrespect for his/her neighbors by not maintaining the safety and integrity of the property and thus the neighborhood, NANA works with the city departments to remedy the situation.

Currently, 710 S. Fred Shuttlesworth/S. Crescent is in need of that attention. Part of the original historic home collapsed a few years ago. It was not repaired even though a modern addition to the building was in regular use. The Building Department had to issue orders to demolish all of the original building. The owner responded by bulldozing the building to the lot in back of the property, 689 Greenwood, which has the same owner. The debris sits on a bank, looking down on Greenwood where it is the view seen by owners who are living in their well manicured homes.

The Building Department has issued orders to clean it up and they are being ignored. Fines have been issued without compliance and it will probably end up in court. The property is a safety hazard as well as an eyesore. The foundation is open and the debris could easily slide. Children are often in places they shouldn't be and this is an open invitation. IT IS A TRAGEDY WAITING TO HAPPEN.

710 S. Fred Shuttlesworth/S. Crescent is owned by Save The Church Foundation, Inc. The modern building remaining is used for church services for First New Shiloh Baptist Church. Rev. M. K. Cash is the pastor. He has been unavailable to discuss this with neighbors.

We have been told it is difficult to make churches accountable. Do you find this acceptable? We expect churches to be a "guiding light" in our communities, leading the way to good moral and civic behavior. When the church is a property owner, it is accountable to same legal responsibilities as any other, and more importantly, should act as a good and caring neighbor.

We have been told that in court the neighborhood makes a statement just by showing up. Are you willing to go to court to support NANA's position that this problem should be pursued by the city until it is corrected? If so, call 221-6166 and Charlene will notify you when there is a hearing.

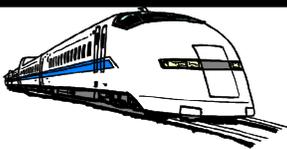
**Martin Luther King Chorale Seeks Singers:** To bring together women & men of all ages, & races, & of diverse beliefs, & choral groups to sing to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by performing at Music Hall on January 15, 2001. Auditions: Tuesday, October 10 at 7:00 pm. Call Catherine Roma at 221-1118

**Congratulations:**

**Jean Crawford** (Winding Way) has been elected to serve on the Board of the Hearing, Speech & Deaf Center

**Pauline Daly** (Dakota & NANA Landlord Chair) was one of the speakers at the city-wide *Building Better Communities* Workshop.

**Jordan Scannella** (Leyman) for making the Deans List (must have a 3.4 or above) at Berklee College of Music in Boston.



**Are you interested in the proposed I-71/Light Rail Transit system and how it could benefit North Avondale?**

If so, you will have the opportunity to learn more about Light Rail Transit at the next North Avondale Community Council meeting on October 10th at 7:30 p.m. Representatives from the Light Rail Transit project will be at the meeting to give a brief presentation and to answer your questions about light rail.

Light rail is a mass transit system powered by overhead electrical wires and is currently being studied to run along the I-71 Corridor.

Elements of the presentation include a six-minute project video, "Linking our Communities," explaining the benefits and illustrating how a light rail transit system may look in Greater Cincinnati. Additionally, the speaker will discuss the regional transportation plan and answer any questions you may have.



**North Avondale  
Community  
Center  
961-1584**

**Oct 27th, Haunted Meal Event 5:30 to 6 p.m.** Cost: \$6.00 includes catered meal, plus a picture in your costume, Costume contest, candy giveaway, music & dancing. Ages 5 through 12.

**Senior Schedule:** 10 to 2 everyday

Walking, Weight room, Treadmill, Health cycles Monday thru Friday; Yoga Tuesday 9:30 to 10:30; Ceramics Tuesday & Thursday 10 to 12; Computer Monday thru Thursday 10 to 12

**Classic Seniors Schedule** every Friday

**Oct 6,** 10:00 a.m. Business meeting

**Oct 13,** Luncheon at Homers Smorgasbord. Meet at the center at 10:45 a.m. to ride in the center van.

**Oct. 20,** 10:00 a.m. Speaker on Senior Finance & Investment

**Oct. 27,** 10:30 a.m. Arts & Humanities slide presentation



NANA's next **Mixed Paper\* Recycling Drive** is **November 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** behind the North Avondale School at 615 Clinton Springs Ave.

Thank you to our August 5<sup>th</sup> Recycling drive volunteers: John Delaney, Marvin & Gerry Kraus, Ryan McGinnis, Mary Piper, Sue Spears, Bill & Cindy Starr, & Rita Stevens. We could not do our paper drive without our wonderful NANA volunteers. Anyone who would like to volunteer for an hour shift between 10 and 2, please call the NANA office at 221-6166

\*Mixed paper includes: newspapers, junk mail, magazines, cereal-type boxes, office paper & corrugated boxes.



**NEEDED: Paper Shopping Bags with Handles for the Food Pantry.** They use them for packing their clients groceries. Please bring them to the Recycling Drive and NANA will give them to the Food Pantry.

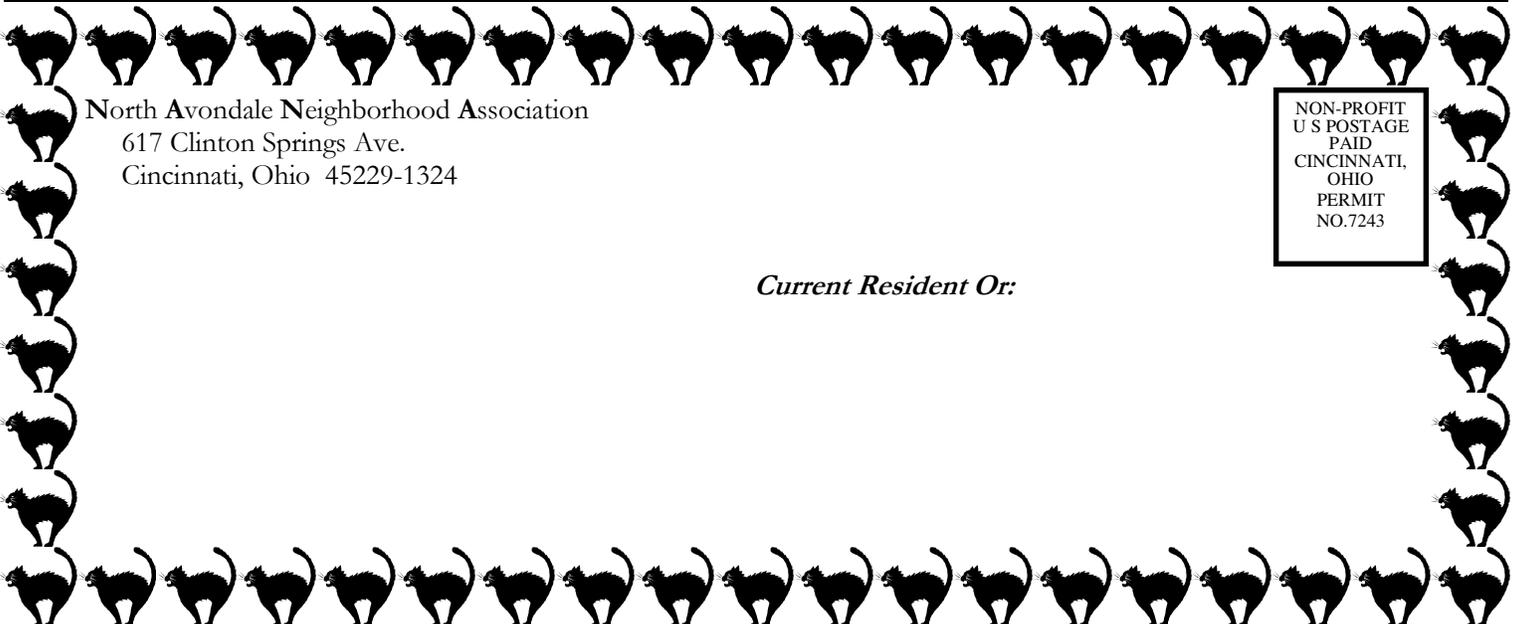
### NANA CALENDAR

- First Thursday of Every Month, 6:30 p.m., S. & N. Fred Shuttlesworth Circle, Greenwood & Burton **Block Club Meeting** at Bethlehem Baptist, 760 N<sup>th</sup> Fred Shuttlesworth Circle Questions - call Pauline Daly at 751- 8334
- Tuesday, October 10, 7:30 p .m, **OCTOBER NANA GENERAL MEETING**, 617 Clinton Springs
- Saturday, November 4, 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m., **MIXED PAPER & CARDBOARD RECYCLING**, 615 Clinton Springs



### NANA EXECUTIVE BOARD & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President: John Delaney	221-1044	City Liaison: Gerry Kraus	861-3939
1 <sup>st</sup> VP: Jean Wilson	221-7437	Landlord/Tenant Relations: Pauline Daly	751-8334
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP: Marianne Knue	281-5860	Legal Chairperson: Marvin Kraus	861-3939
3 <sup>rd</sup> VP: Mary Piper	961-1080	727 Renovation: John Angelo	281-6644
Corresponding Sec.: Linda Grayman	281-6138	Welcome: Judith Titchener	281-1107
Recording Secretary: Toni Ward	559-1221	<b>NANA Coordinator &amp; NANA News Editor: Charlene Morse</b>	<b>221-6166</b>
Treasurer: John Jones	281-2596		
Beautification: Ursula Hassel	751-4546		



North Avondale Neighborhood Association  
617 Clinton Springs Ave.  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45229-1324

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