



# NANA NEWS

## SEPTEMBER 2000

Published by :  
The North Avondale  
Neighborhood Association  
617 Clinton Springs Ave. (29)  
(513) 221-6166  
Volume XXXX, No. 1

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As President of NANA, I have become more aware of the conditions that exist in the different neighborhoods in the city. I have come to realize that some of the neighborhoods are lucky and some are not.

In the unlucky neighborhoods the houses need painting and the yards are not well kept. No one plants flowers. The residents don't pick up litter in front of their house or on the street. As you drive through the neighborhood you can feel that it is really not a neighborhood at all. That it is simply a place where people live. That they are just passing through. The people there are not committed to the area and there is no sense of community. It's apparent that the people living there do not believe that the look and feel of the area affects their quality of life and is a reflection on them.

The lucky neighborhoods jump right out at you. The houses look great. They are well maintained. The yards are neat. People plant flowers. Neighbors put their trashcans out on time and retrieve them in a timely fashion. Litter is not all over the place. People pick it up in front of their own house and their neighbors' houses. As you drive through you can feel that this is a neighborhood. It is a place where people take pride in where they live. They care about the others who live around them. They understand that how where they live looks and feels, is a reflection on them.

North Avondale is a lucky neighborhood, but we can't take our luck for granted. If any of us fail do our part North Avondale's luck could change. Lucky neighborhoods are not very hard to create and maintain. It does not require a huge time or financial commitment. It does not require that you volunteer to serve on the neighborhood association (although that helps). All it requires is that each household maintain their property. Paint your house when it needs it. Keep the yard looking nice. Pick up the litter in front of your house and on your street. Plant flowers. Respect your neighbors and their efforts to keep their home looking nice by keeping your home looking nice. Take pride in where you live, and accept that its appearance does reflect on you.

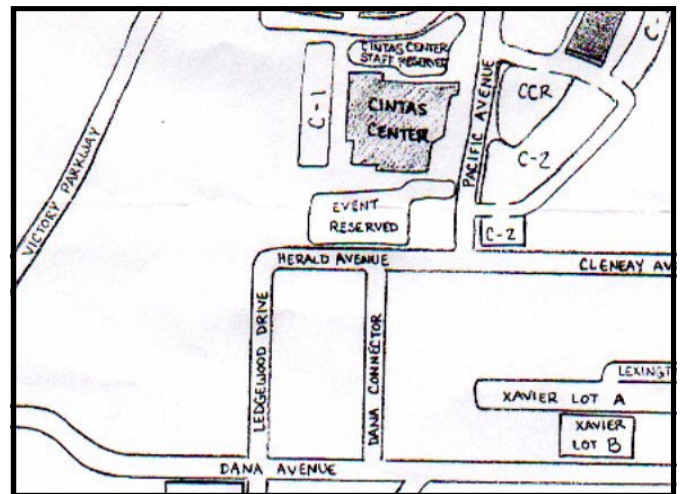
Luck is not really what makes North Avondale such a great neighborhood. It is the people who live here and their commitment to this neighborhood. Lets all continue to work hard at keeping North Avondale Cincinnati's best address.

*John*

### SEPTEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> NANA GENERAL MEETING AT NEW XAVIER CINTAS CENTER

Xavier has invited NANA to come to Xavier's new Cintas Center to tour, partake in light refreshments and hold our September General Meeting. Take Dana to Ledgewood to Herald & right past the Cintas Center turn left onto Pacific and park in lot CCR (see map below). Walk right across Pacific, enter at the East entrance & go to Conference Rooms 1 & 2. Arrive at 7:00 p.m. to tour the new facilities. The NANA meeting will begin at 7:30.

The Cintas Center which is 325,000 square feet is home to the student dining facilities, the Schiff Family Conference center which hosts 6 conference rooms & 2 banquet rooms, & the 10,000 seat sports arena.



- AGENDA** 7:00-7:30 TOUR THE CENTER
- SEPTEMBER 12TH, 7:00P.M.**
- NANA GENERAL MEETING**
- XAVIER CINTAS CENTER**
- HERALD AVENUE**
- CONFERENCE ROOM 1 & 2**
- POLICE GUN SAFETY PROGRAM
  - PROPOSED RENAMING OF MITCHELL AVE. TO SEN. WM. BOWEN WAY





It's been four years since the drugs, prostitution and deterioration began. It's been nearly one year since the operation was shut down. But not until the first swing of the sledge hammer on July 29, did it all finally become history. The memory of the trespassing, break-ins and vandalism, the loitering, the fights, the trash, the 2:00 a.m. police calls, the fear of stepping out at night on your own street began to melt away when a crew of Xavier volunteers joined NANA volunteers in the kick-off of reclaiming 727 S. Fred Shuttlesworth Circle (previously S. Crescent Avenue).

Knocking out make-shift closets, drywall encased stairways and graffiti covered walls which subdivided the hundred year old home, the volunteers felt a deep sense of accomplishment and pride at the end of that long Saturday. With over a dozen volunteers the renovation of 727 S. Shuttlesworth got a tremendous jump start.

Over the next 3 months, the house will be the site of immense activity as contractors tackle everything from roofing and box gutters to plumbing and flooring. In the end, the once derelict house will be completely remodeled, updated and listed at fair market value as a family residence... and an asset to the community.

The property renovation committee includes North Avondale residents Marianne Knue, Jean Wilson, Erik Zimmerman and myself as the coordinator. The garden renovation team is headed by John Jones and Ursula Hassel. To date, the committee has invested nearly 200 hours in the project. And the effort is beginning to pay off. Already, interest in the house is high and neighbors routinely stop by to check progress and share improvements they're making to their own homes.

Kudos to the Xavier St. Ignatius Day volunteers (see both pictures) who worked tirelessly on 727: Mark, Kelly, Andrew, & Jeni Bressler, Janice, Jenny & Lizzy Baughman, Amanda Goubeaux, Allen Kroth, Dave Newman, John Jones, Ursula Hassel, Charlene Morse, Frank Neumann and Spencer Konicov. Kudos to Home Depot and Contractor's Warehouse for their contribution of tools and materials needed for the renovation kick-off. Kudos to King Container for donating the delivery, use and pickup of their 30 cubic yard container to assist with the initial removal of debris.

Kudos to Ethel Cogen and the Department of Neighborhood Services and to Jeanne Gollhofer and the Cincinnati Development Fund for their financial and visionary support of North Avondale in this vital project. Kudos to immediate neighbors Dorothy Rose and Pat & Eddie Thompson who have graciously agreed to allow contractors to extend ladders, containers and debris into their properties as the extensive renovations get underway.

If you would like to volunteer on the project, contact John at 281-6644.

**WANT TO FEEL LIKE A BILLIONAIRE?**

Here's what billionaire Ted Turner has to say about litter: "...one of the things that really drives me nuts is people throwing trash out of their car windows. So I go out and pick it up. I get a sense of accomplishment doing that because you're doing something to make the world better, something you can actually see." (*Modern Maturity*, Sept. - Oct. 2000)



## SAFETY UPDATES

- A rash of cars break-ins have been occurring in North Avondale. Make sure you do not keep valuables in your car. Please report any break-ins to the Police and the NANA machine (221-6166). One arrest was made on Avondale Ave. but unfortunately we had another break-in after the arrest. Help us catch these criminals.
- There is evidence trashcans are being gone through in what appears to be an attempt to find financial statements & credit card solicitations (a clever criminal can use those cash advance checks & credit card applications to their advantage.) Destroy all credit card solicitations and anything you have that may have account numbers or financial information on it before putting in the trash.
- Keep reporting Ice Cream trucks that are violating the loud noise ordinance or are out too late. The Police issued seven citations during the month of August.

## REVERSE THE BLIGHT By Pauline Daly

At the July NANA meeting a resident made us aware of an apartment building where the water had been shut off that afternoon. NANA talked to residents of the building and identified additional long standing problems. The Water Department advised the residents on how to get the water turned on as an emergency.

When NANA is made aware of a problem/violation, we will investigate, and write a letter to the landlord. We will forward the violations to the appropriate city agencies and continue to check on their status through our CNAS (Cincinnati Neighborhood Action Strategy) team. To effect a change, residents must notify us of the original problems and advise us if there is no change or inadequate change.

Landlords are responsible for maintaining electrical, plumbing, sanitary and heating systems, and the appliances they supply. They must provide water, hot water and dwelling heat. They must make repairs and keep the premises fit and habitable. They must keep the common areas safe and sanitary. They must comply with the codes and provide garbage cans. For units of four or more the landlord is responsible for trash removal.

Tenants are responsible for their behavior and their visitors. They are responsible for maintaining their premises, the appliances, and whatever is provided, in a safe and sanitary manner. They are responsible for any damage they might cause.

Correcting a situation doesn't happen immediately. Therefore, you need to take action early in the problem. First, talk to your landlord. If you need our help, please call us. Also, feel free to call your city agencies to check whether the codes are in compliance.

To report a problem with rental property, call Pauline Daly, 751-8334 or the NANA office, 221-6166.

Also, now is the time to think about heating systems. The Health Dept has the equipment to check the temperature in your apartment to see if it is in compliance with city law. If you have reason to believe the heat in your apartment will be a problem this winter, let us know.

## TAX BILLS By Marvin Kraus

You might want to check your real estate tax data in the Hamilton County Auditor's Office. In the upper left hand quarter of the Base Detail on the Auditor's website ([www.hamiltoncountyauditor.org](http://www.hamiltoncountyauditor.org)) there is a designation for Neighborhood. I discovered that the Auditor says that I live in Paddock Hills and everyone else who owns a home whose first seven Parcel ID numbers are 1110007 lives in Paddock Hills. I complained to the Auditor's Office. I was informed that the Paddock Hills designation was a mistake which would be corrected during the 2002 Triennial Update. I was further cautioned that the change of neighborhood designation might cause an increase in property value because North Avondale property is valued higher than Paddock Hills property, that is to say the same house in North Avondale would be valued higher than if it were in Paddock Hills. I don't think that's right. If a house is valued at a certain amount, say 100,000, its tax value should be the same throughout the county and should not change because of its neighborhood designation. North Avondale should have the same value factor as Paddock Hills. If you agree, address your complaint to Dusty Rhodes, Auditor, Hamilton County, County Administration Building, 138 East Court Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202



## NANA NOTATIONS

**Marcus Ware (Victory Parkway)** who retired after 20 years as Music Director of the Pavilion Music Company preformed his last concert as director on August 6th of live big band jazz.

**Mrs. Margaret Crumpton & Mrs. Wilma Moore (Sturgis)** are NANA Good Garden Samaritans who unbeknownst to us have for years been planting perennials from their gardens into our NANA flower beds – Thanks!

**Melanie & Barry Myers (parents Julian & Scotty—Leyman)** sister & brother of Julie Myers, and natives of North Avondale have added graduate degrees to their achievements. Melanie graduated (May 2000) from John Hopkins with a PhD. in Public Health and Barry graduated (June 2000) from Harvard with a Masters in International Affairs, specializing in East Asia. Melanie is working in Atlanta, GA at the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Julie, Melanie and Barry are also graduates of Walnut Hills High School and, as children, were involved in the NANA-sponsored plays. Each of the three agrees that North Avondale is a great place to live and to raise children including themselves.

COMING TO VINE & MITCHELL  
FEBRUARY 2001  
WALGREENS



## THANK YOU TO NANA HELPERS

On Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup> the **Herrin – Carterville Youth Group**, which included 22 students and 5 adult helpers, arrived on bus from Herrin – Carterville Illinois and made North Avondale a prettier place. The Catholic Youth group was established in 1996 and is comprised of extraordinary, fun-loving, energetic, faith-filled young adults. They worked so hard during the past year in their own community that a Friday at Kings Island was planned as a “thank you” trip. The youth, not the adults, came up with the idea that since they were going to have a day of fun at Kings Island they wanted to help another community out just like they do at home (a town of approximately 3,000) and do service work in a Cincinnati community. Since they were staying in the Xavier dorm they asked Xavier to find them a project. So, half the group

cleaned up the Evanston Park and half came to the Dana Triangle and weeded the flowerbeds. They were hard workers and really helped lend a hand to beautify the neighborhood. A special thank you to the Herrin – Carterville Youth Group (pictured above).

On Saturday July 29<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Xavier held its annual St Ignatius Day, which is a day when Xavier Alumni do service projects in the Cincinnati neighborhoods. This year volunteers worked at the previous “crack house” (727) that NANA is restoring and at the flowerbeds at Washington and Clinton Springs. Thank you to Xavier Alumni & their families; Mark, Kelly, Andrew, & Jeni Bressler, Janice, Jenny & Lizzy Baughman, Amanda Goubeaux, Allen Kroth, Dave Newman and thank you to NANA volunteers; John Angelo, Ursula Hassel, John Jones, Spencer Konicov, Fernal Lanton, Marian Miller, Frank Neumann, Clarence Roberts, Cecil Thomas, Judith Titchener, Erik Zimmerman. The flowerbeds were weeded, mulched (appreciatively donated by Home Depot) and planted. At 727 walls were torn down, the yard cut and cleaned out and a tree was even cut down, all enough to fill a large dumpster.

## 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, September 12, 7:30 p .m, **SEPTEMBER NANA GENERAL MEETING, XU Cintas Center**, Herald Ave.
- 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	Beautification: Ursula Hassel	751-4546
1 <sup>st</sup> VP: Jean Wilson	221-7437	City Liaison: Gerry Kraus	861-3939
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP: Marianne Knue	281-5860	Landlord/Tenant Relations: Pauline Daly	751-8334
3 <sup>rd</sup> VP: Mary Piper	961-1080	Legal Chairperson: Marvin Kraus	861-3939
Corresponding Sec.: Linda Grayman	281-6138	727 Renovation: John Angelo	281-6644
Recording Secretary: Toni Ward	559-1221	Welcome: Judith Titchener	281-1107
Treasurer: John Jones	281-2596	<b>NANA Coordinator &amp; NANA News Editor: Charlene Morse</b>	<b>221-6166</b>

North Avondale Neighborhood Association  
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