



# NANA NEWS

DECEMBER 2006

JANUARY 2007

Published by :The North Avondale  
Neighborhood Association  
617 Clinton Springs Ave. (29)  
(513) 221-6166  
Email: [clmorse@fuse.net](mailto:clmorse@fuse.net)  
Website: [Northavondalecincinnati.com](http://Northavondalecincinnati.com)  
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President: Tim Yosmali  
Administrator: Charlene Morse  
Editor: Charlene Morse

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Neighbor,

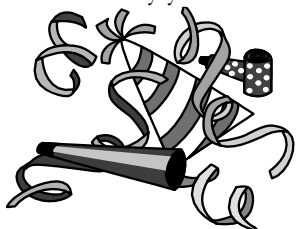
Another Thanksgiving is in the rear-view mirror and we on the NANA board want to wish you and yours the very best this holiday season. I hope you brought a mug of hot chocolate and strolled thru the neighborhood's streets as they were lit up for the 4th annual luminary stroll. (see page 4 for the people who made it possible)

Here are just a few happenings from the past month: November found another large group of North Avondale residents graduating from the Citizens on Patrol training. It also found a busy group of active North and South Avondale marchers as Operation Ceasefire was mobilized several times. On Nov 20th, the Mayor published his 2007 - 2008 budget recommendations for the City. (see article page 3) Among many other things, these included more money for NSP funds, added police on the street, more money for community centers to keep longer hours as well as added money for the CHRC Street Worker program. After walking with some members of the Street Worker program at a Ceasefire event recently, I learned this is really a wonderful program that is building trust and mentoring youth at the street level while at the same time working with law enforcement. The finance committee of City Council will hold public hearings on the proposed budget on December 14th, so please come out and let your thoughts be heard.

Come to the December 12th NANA General Meeting where the **Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA)** will come to address our needs for landlord accountability in the neighborhood. We are also hoping to have a member of the **School Board** to explain the cut of Burton School (see article page 2)

May you have a wonderful 2007 !

*Tim Yosmali*



## Happy Holidays and Happy New Year

### From The North Avondale Neighborhood Association

#### 2006 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL

Mr. Mrs. Ms. \_\_\_\_\_ name \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues \$100  \$50  \$25  \$10  \$5  or \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you! Please make your check payable to NANA.

Send Checks to the NANA Office 617 Clinton Springs, 45229

## COURTWATCH

By Naomi Dallo

Courtwatch is a group of North Avondale residents formed in response to the wave of crime we experienced recently. We attend proceedings arising out of crimes committed in the neighborhood in order to identify ourselves as an affected group and place the crime in a larger context.

We hope that making our presence felt will reduce the risk that a case will be processed through the criminal justice system without attention to all the constituencies harmed by the perpetrators' conduct. There is a group of direct victims, for instance those held up at gunpoint, and a larger group of indirect victims, those whose sense of well being and safety is violated by the crimes.

So far, we have attended a preliminary hearing for William McNeil, the adult offender who allegedly held up several individuals at gunpoint over the course of last summer, in concert with two juveniles. The juveniles have been sentenced to four years in jail each. Judge Ruehlman, who is hearing Mr. McNeil's case, was very receptive to our presence in court and acknowledged our input in the proceedings. He elicited our consent to a proposed plea bargain, which the defendant ultimately rejected. Mr. McNeil arrived in court the next day for the jury trial and attempted to accept a plea bargained sentence of 15 years, as had been offered by the prosecutor on Monday.

After going through the motions once again, he reneged at the last minute.

The case has been set over until February 27, 2007.

We have mounted an impressive group of concerned citizens and expect to have a positive impact on the sentencing of those who commit crimes in North Avondale.

#### NANA GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 7:30 p.m.

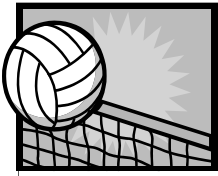
NORTH AVONDALE RECREATION CENTER

617 Clinton Springs Ave.

#### AGENDA

- CMHA
- Burton School
- Zoning





Both the Hirsch and N. Avondale Recreation Centers will be closed Dec. 25, Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> and Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>.

Both Centers are available for rental for parties, dinners, call for more information

**HIRSCH CENTER • 751-3393 • 3630 Reading Road**

You must have membership to participate in all programs.

**Basketball Leagues forming in Dec. or Jan.:**

- Mondays Adult League (\$200 per team to be divided among players).
- Fridays Teen League (14 -17 yr olds)
- Saturday Nights League (18-24 yr olds)

If interested in any league, contact the center, ask for Rico.

**Three on Three Basketball**

- Thursday nights **Teens** 5pm -7pm, **Adults** 7pm-9pm

**After School**

- Day Camp Monday – Friday (follows CPS schedule)
  - 2:30 to 6 pm \$20 per week.
- Mini Holiday Camp Dec 20 - 29th 7am – 6pm , \$5 per day
- Drop In Monday – Friday 2:30 to 5 pm
- Theater T, Th & Fr 3 to 5 pm
- Arts and Crafts M & W 3 to 5 pm

**Taxes**

Need help with your taxes? Call the Center in January for more info!

**NORTH AVONDALE • 961-1584 • 617 Clinton Springs**

You must have membership to participate in all programs.

- Mini Holiday Camp I - Dec. 20 -22, 7am -6pm for \$45.
  - Mini Holiday Camp II - Dec. 26 – 29<sup>th</sup> 7am – 6pm for \$60.
- Both Camps together per child is \$105.

**Fitness**

- You must have membership to participate in all programs.
- Aerobics** Teens/Adults/Seniors Tues. & Thur.. 5:45 -7:30 pm \$5 per class or \$20 month
- Aerobics** Teens/Adults/Seniors Sat. noon – 1:45 pm \$5 per class or \$20 month
- Head to Toe** Seniors Tue & Thur. 10am -11am Free
- Line Dancing** Seniors Mon. & Wed. 10am -11:30 Free
- Karate** Youth /Teens Tues. & Thursday 5pm-6pm See instructor
- Karate** Youth /Teens/Adults/Sen. Tues. & Thursday 6pm-7:30pm See instructor

- Open Gym** Teen/Adults Wed & Fri 6:30pm-8:30pm Free
- Sauna** Adults/Seniors Call for us to turn on (needs to warm up 15 -30 minutes) Free
- Walking Club** Seniors Tues. & Thur. 11am -noon Free
- Weight Room** Teens/Adults/Seniors During open hours \$10 per quarter
- Yoga** Teens/Adults/Seniors Mon. & Wed. 6pm-7pm Free

**After School Programs**

- You must have membership to participate in all programs.
- After School Day Camp** \$120 per month follows CPS schedule 2:15 – 6pm
- Bridge Gap** \$75 per month, CPS schedule 2:15 – 5pm
- Drop In** 3pm -4:30 needs membership only
- Basketball Teams** already formed see Tim for schedules



**BURTON SCHOOL**

•363-9700 • 876 Glenwood Ave

Quality Education for Our Children

On November 27th the CPS School Board voted to restore the cuts to Walnut Hills and the Montessori schools. They then approved the rest of the plan, which included closing Burton School.

This decision reinforces the 2 separate school systems we have in CPS. The schools where cuts were restored perform higher academically and have low poverty rates. The neighborhood schools, 12 of which have been in Academic Emergency for so long that the students are eligible for state vouchers, are accepted as failing. Three neighborhood schools, including Burton, are ranked in Continuous Improvement, but are scheduled to be closed.

Only a small percentage of the children in North Avondale attend North Avondale Montessori. Children who attend Rockdale and South Avondale are not eligible to apply there. NANA and the Avondale Community Council have joined to form the Education Accountability Committee of North Avondale and Avondale. The purpose is to advocate for Quality Education for ALL our children and to educate the community as to what a quality education is. If you want to be on the e-mail list and are not already, contact Pauline Daly [pdaly@fuse.net](mailto:pdaly@fuse.net) 751-8334.

**THE NEW SCHOOL**

•281-7999 • 3 Burton Woods Lane

Faculty, staff, students, and parents at The New School extend warm holiday greetings to fellow members of the North Avondale community. Please spread the word about our Winter Open House on **February 4 from 2 - 4 p.m.** This is a great time to learn about Montessori education in general and our school in particular.

**December**

- 14 Pre-Primary Festival 2:00pm
- 18 - 30 Winter Recess - No School
- Dec. 18-22 Vacation Care for 3-7 Year Olds (5 Days)

**January 2007**

- 10 *Parent Education: The Next Step Meeting*
- 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School
- 20 Interviews for 3 Years Olds
- 26 *TNS/Diversity Committee Family Movie Night*

**NORTH AVONDALE MONTESSORI SCHOOL**

• 363-3900 • 615 Clinton Springs Avenue

**December:**

- 4 - Sibling sign ups for all magnet schools. At NAM we start at 6:00 in the morning. Please come to the office.
- 4-8 - Book Fair in the library
- 6 - Winter Concert - 7:00p.m. in the gym
- December 19 - January 1 - No School - Winter Break

**January**

- 8 - In Quadrant sign ups starting at 5:00a.m. Doors open to the gym at 12:00a.m. We are Quadrant 3.
- 15 - No School! Martin Luther King Day
- 26 - End of 2nd Qtr - no students
- February 12, 2007 - Out of Quadrant sign ups. Doors open at 6:00 - please come to the office.

## NEW ZONING FOR PARK & RECREATION LAND

By Gerry Kraus, City Hall Liaison

As a follow-up to the new city zoning code passed in 2004 city planners are working on a new zoning district for park and recreation land. Originally citizens had asked for a separate district to maximize protection of green space in the city by requiring notice to the public before the city could approve any development or change in use of public green space. In North Avondale this includes the Avon Fields Golf Course, N. A. Center ball fields, Seasongood Square and M.L. King Parks and Victory Parkway. Marvin and Gerry Kraus have been representing North Avondale on a citizens' working group to give input into this proposed new zoning district.

The proposed new Park & Recreation District zone includes as its purpose:

1. Preserve, protect and enhance a system of public parks, parkways, and recreation areas that accommodate passive and active public recreational uses.
2. Preserve natural and scenic areas, and protect sensitive natural resource area. Accommodate development that is compatible with these natural amenities (*new language added*). Protect adjacent residential districts from adverse land use impacts.

Presently large tracts of parks and recreation land have the most restrictive zoning permitting only development of single family homes on 20,000 square foot lots, if the Parks & Recreation Commissions approve any development at all. Under the proposed new zoning commercial uses such as "full service restaurants," "recreation and entertainment" businesses as well as government facilities and offices, would be permitted on park or recreation land. Citizen representatives on the working group have been reluctant to support any development that is not directly park or recreation related.

This proposed new zoning district will be reviewed at the December 12 NANA Meeting and neighborhood input sought. Please help NANA determine its position on the proposed new Parks & Recreation zoned district.

## NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

Looking for someplace to exercise? The O'Connor Sports Center at Xavier University is a full membership facility that serves students, alumni, faculty/staff and the **general community**. The OSC was renovated in the summer of 2005 and features a six-lane, 25 meter indoor pool, three court gymnasium, Hammer Strength room, Nautilus area cardiovascular room, two racquetball/handball courts and shower/locker rooms. Go there for a visit or visit their website <http://xavier.edu/osc/oscmain.htm>

The Monthly Newsletter is on the NANA website. If the mail is slow just go online to read the NANA NEWS For the newsletter, monthly meeting minutes and much more - I love the pictures in the history section - check out: [www.northavondalecincinnati.com](http://www.northavondalecincinnati.com).

## NSP & OTHER BUDGET CUTS NEED YOUR HELP

The City Manager has presented his biennial budget for 2007 & 2008. The Mayor has also come out with his recommendations. To see both in their entirety go to <http://rcc.org> and look under Features, and under Mayor Cuts that may concern you:

- Reduction of yard waste program (\$114,660).
- Recycling to biweekly (\$315,000) The mayor is concerned about making it biweekly.
  - I wonder if this will increase costs to solid waste collection.*
- Reduce three streetlight services: annual preventive & maintenance (\$61,330); eliminate resetting streetlights - poles will be removed not replaced (\$95,320); reduce streetlight wash & relamp (\$25,500)
  - Pertinent because of our recent concerns with safety and lighting*
- Reduce remedial maintenance of storm water system (\$45,500)
  - Didn't we recently have a great deal of problems with sewer backups?*
- Reduce the NSP funding from \$7,000 to \$5,580 per year, per neighborhood (\$10,000 in previous years). The vitality of North Avondale & other city neighborhoods, is dependent on NSP funds. NSP funds much of what NANA does including this newsletter. The Mayor proposes \$8,000.

A good thing is both support bringing back City Planning Department & the Office of Environmental Quality.

The final budget amounts will be determined by City Council after several public hearings. Voice your concerns and express your support for NSP at the Finance Committee **on Thursday, December 14 at 6:00 PM, College Hill Recreation Center, 5545 Belmont Ave.** or call or email council members.

## CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

**Christmas trees and regular yard waste collection stops after 1/9 until April (see budget cuts article)**

**After 1/9, until April citizens must schedule a pickup for yard waste or Christmas trees on their normal day by calling 591-6000**

**Also remember raking leaves into the street or right-of-way is prohibited & is Punishable by Law.**

## ABANDONED HOUSES - ANY ON YOUR STREET?

NANA, Mt Auburn, Walnut Hills, Avondale & Paddock Hills has been working with University of Cincinnati in studying the effects of Abandoned Houses on neighborhoods. To that end we will be assessing all properties in North Avondale. So, that we don't miss any vacant houses in the neighborhood we are asking for your help. Besides the study we want to make sure the laws regarding these vacant buildings are enforced. There are city laws to keep vacant houses from falling into disrepair or becoming a safety problem. If there is a abandoned/vacant house on your street, please call the NANA Office at 221-6166 or email at [clmorse@fuse.net](mailto:clmorse@fuse.net) to help us with our study and so that NANA can follow-up to make sure that the vacant building ordinance is enforced and that the house does not become a blight on your street.



Thank you to the volunteers who helped make The **2006 Luminary Stroll** a success. Approximately \$5,222 was given to the Philip Bates Alumni Scholarship Foundation Fund. Committee Chairs were: Michelle Baxter (South of Mitchell area), Julie Zimmerman (East of Reading) Carolyn Gilman (North of Mitchell)

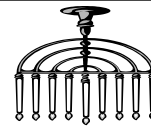
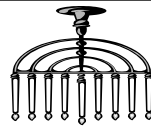
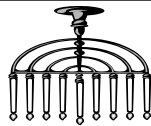
Volunteers who distributed flyers, collected money, assembled and distributed the Luminary Kits were: Melca Wallace & Ann Rundle (Spring House Lane); Grace & Brian Hill, Sue & Ben Blaney, Marcia & Dirk Pastoor, Mary Ann & Jeff Knoop, Anne, Liz, David & Duane Keller (South of Mitchell); Mary Dee Novak, Jan Banks (Barry); Gerry & Marvin Kraus (Stratford & Paddock); Janice Amatulli, Mary Dudrow, Molly Dingeldein, Marybeth and Lou Flaspohler, Jennifer Howe, Steve & Gwen Koenig, Jan-Michele Kearney, Sue Kenford, Shelagh Larkin, Amy Morrison, Pat Paul, Mary Piper, Vanessa Sorensen, Oscar Zimmerman (East of Reading); Monica Blackburn, Tracie Conway, Deborah Ginocchio, Patty Hassel, Alison Paradise, Bobbie Paul, Judie Pennington, Cindy Khoo-Robinson, Jolene Struebbe and Vanessa Wayne (North of Mitchell).

Thank you to Baxter Burial Vault Services for their generous donation which supplied the neighborhood with the sand. Paper Bags were donated by an anonymous donor. Candle-lite supplied the candles at a lower price to help in our luminary endeavors. Jack Wolking, Dianne Noyes, Shaw Zavon-Huff Realty and Keller Williams Realty all donated distribution bags. A special thanks to Patty Hassel Treasurer for NANA for taking on the additional task of the luminary. Also thanks to Valerie Williams and Robert Dejong for toasting smores and Vanessa Wayne for donating the smores.

Every year we have more streets and neighbors who have chosen to be involved in the Luminary. This year lights beautifully framed the following streets: Avondale, Avon Fields, Barry, Beechwood, Betula, Burton Woods, Clinton Springs. Dakota, Ledgewood, Lenox, Leyman, Marion, Mitchell, Paddock, Red Bud, Redway, Rose Hill, Spring House, Stratford, Valley, Winding Way.

**NANA EXECUTIVE BOARD, COMMITTEE CHAIRS & IMPORTANT CITY NUMBERS**

President: Tim Yosmali _____	641-1244	Legal Chairperson: Marvin Kraus _____	861-3939
1 <sup>st</sup> VP: Sulayman Bajo _____	290-8781	Master Plan: Bob Novak _____	751-2161
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP: Deborah Elkins-Brown _____	861-4108	Neighborhood Issues: John Jones _____	281-2596
3 <sup>rd</sup> VP: Heather Herr _____	861-8180	Quality of Life Issues: Marilyn Smith _____	221-4039
Corresponding Sec.: Elaine Foster _____	751-8152	<b>NANA Administrator &amp; NANA News Editor: Charlene Morse _____</b>	<b>221-6166</b>
Recording Secretary: Michelle Baxter _____	475-0441	<b>City Complaint/Request Hotline _____</b>	591-6000
Treasurer: Patricia Hassel _____	751-3357	<b>Police District 4 _____</b>	<b>352-3576, After Dec. 15 - 698-6000, 01, 02, 03, 04, 05</b>
Beautification: Ursula Hassel _____	751-4546	<b>24 hour Neighborhood Officer _____</b>	368-1720
City Liaison: Gerry Kraus _____	861-3939	<b>Nonemergency Police _____</b>	765-1212
Environmental: Mike Rieck _____	961-6563	<b>Request A Recycling Bin _____</b>	242-4401
Landlord/Tenant Relations: Pauline Daly _____	751-8334	<b>Report Air Odors 24/7 _____</b>	946-7777



GET INVOLVED!  
NANA MEETING DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>  
LAST TIME TO PAY YOUR 2006 NANA DUES

*Current Resident Or:*

NON-PROFIT  
U S POSTAGE  
PAID  
CINCINNATI,  
OHIO  
PERMIT  
NO. 7243

***Cincinnati's best address with: Beautiful Homes, Great Neighbors & Civic Passion***

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

**NANA CALENDAR**

- Thursday, December 7, 6:00 p.m. **CPOP**, District 4, Reading Road
- Tuesday, December 12, 7:30 p.m. **NANA GENERAL MEETING**, 617 Clinton Springs - CMHA, Closing Burton School
- Tuesday, January 9, 7:30 p.m. **NANA GENERAL MEETING**, 617 Clinton Springs