



NANA NEWS

JUNE 2003

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The North Avondale
Neighborhood Association
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Coordinator: Charlene Morse
Editor: Charlene Morse

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is it, my last President's message for the NANA News! The NANA Annual Meeting took place May 18 and a new Executive Board was elected. My appreciation goes to everyone who attended the meeting and voted in the election.

I'd like to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who served on the NANA Executive Board for the past year. John Jones, Eva Roberson and Mike Walton were Vice Presidents, and I found myself relying on them to lead meetings quite often due to my business travels. Barbara Henshaw put her writing skills to use on NANA letters to council members, businesses and more; NANA is known as a vocal organization, and our written voice was that of Barbara for the past 2 years. Marilyn Smith excelled at the challenging job of capturing the minutes of our meetings, and Christopher Smitherman kept our books in order as Treasurer. I feel honored to have worked with these dedicated neighbors for the past year and appreciate all their hard work and friendship.

In addition to the officers, I must also thank the many committee chairs: Pauline Daly, Teresa Harten, Ursula Hassel, Amy Hines, Gerry Kraus, Marvin Kraus, Bill Rambo, Mike Rieck and Judith Titchener. Without the efforts of these wonderful people, North Avondale would surely not be as successful as it is. Thank you for the gift of your time and dedication.

I certainly can't forget Charlene Morse, the NANA Coordinator. I wonder what NANA would be like without her! I can depend on Charlene for anything, and that made my time as President immeasurably easier. Thank you, Char, for everything.

The good news is, we have a new Executive Board filled with great neighbors whom I know will work on North Avondale's behalf to the best of their abilities. We like to call North Avondale "Cincinnati's Best Address," and I'm confident the new board will make it even better. Best of luck over the next year!

Jim



If you have garden tools you don't want, neighborhood gardeners at Martin Luther King Park would appreciate having them to use in the Community Garden. Ursula Hassel will coordinate their use. Contact NANA at 221-6166

LET NANA KNOW YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH ACQUIRING CITY BUILDING PERMITS

It has come to NANA's attention that many Cincinnati Neighbors have expressed frustration in acquiring building permits in Cincinnati. Since this activity could have an impact on the continual need and desire to rehab or simply live in our wonderful old homes, NANA has decided to investigate. So far we have learned that:

1. Individuals submit their plans to the permit examiner. They are either approved as is (after being examined by the building plans examiner, fire, and sometimes water & sewers)

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GREEN-UP DAY

Thank you to all the NANA's volunteers for sprucing up the parks by mulching, planting, trimming and generally cleaning up the area. Volunteers worked on two different weekends. On May 3, volunteers worked at Martin Luther King Park:

Phi Beta Sigma alumni: Caleb Brown, Ted Jebens, Perry Roseman, Alex Strickland, Cliff Wilbon, Anthony Woody

Zeta Phi Beta (5 members from U. C.)

Campfire Family Club: Suzanne, Jonathan & Matthew Crable (1 adult, 2 kids); Benjamin & Joshua Holtzman (2 kids); Clare, Jim, Brigid & Gabriel Iverson (2 adults, 2 kids); Nancy Johnson (1 adult); Linda, Elena, Sam & Carlos Keller (1 adult, 3 kids)

To avoid possible frost for all the of annuals being planted in the Dana Triangle & Seasongood a later date of May 10 was picked but unfortunately that date was rained out. We then attempted to work on May 17 in the rain. Lots of planting was done in the mud and rain by our dedicated volunteers:

Kate Anthony, Jan Banks, Don Dudrow, Jim Gerwe, Ursula Hassel, Gale Howe, John Jones, Gerry Kraus, Marvin Kraus, Pat Paul, Phyllis Thomas from LADD, Terry Toepker
Food was provided by Krogers and NANA.

NANA GENERAL MEETING
JUNE 10TH, 7:30 p.m.
NORTH AVONDALE
COMMUNITY CENTER
617 Clinton Springs Ave.

AGENDA ITEMS:

- KATHY JORGENSEN-FINLEY - THE CINCINNATI SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (ARTICLE PG. 3)
- HAZARD HOUSEHOLD WASTE DISPOSAL SITE (SEE PG. 2)



CITY HALL UPDATES & NANA NOTATIONS

By Gerry Kraus

PROPOSED ZONE CHANGES: After the NANA Zoning Committee met on April 21 with Peg Moertl, Director of the city's Community Development and Planning Department, and City Planner David Efland, the city reviewed the Committee's list of objectionable zone changes as well as certain zoning upgrades that NANA was requesting (list in May, 2003 *NANA News*). On May 7 Naomi Dallob, Charlene Morse and Marvin & Gerry Kraus met with City Planner Steve Kurtz and David Efland to review the city's response. The city returned several of the zone changes to their previous classification, particularly most of the Rose Hill area and the Avondale Avenue/Barry Lane area. Additionally the zoning on Wess Park Drive and the Washington/Greenwood Avenue was upgraded.

Other objectionable proposed zone changes were not changed and residents are circulating petitions to present to the administration, the Cincinnati Planning Commission and City Council. They include:

1. **Betula Avenue and parts of Rose Hill and Red Bud** in the vicinity of Betula remain downgraded from SF-20 (minimum lot size 20,000 sq. ft.) to SF-10 (minimum lot size 10,000 sq. ft.) even though some of the properties on Betula are on lots greater than 20,000 sq. ft. and several properties on Rose Hill (below Beechwood) are on lot sizes that range from 91,000 sq. ft, 60,000 sq. ft. to over 20,000 sq. ft.
2. **Stratford Place** has been similarly changed from SF-20 to SF-10 even though two of the 10 properties are on lots greater than 20,000 sq. ft. and the rest of the lot sizes are greater than 10,000 sq. ft.
3. **Barker Road & end of Norway** are also zoned SF-10. Most of their properties are on lot sizes over 20,000 sq. ft.
4. **Kessler Avenue** (off W. Mitchell) has been zoned multi-family (RMX) even most of the homes on this street are single family
5. In addition the **Gershuny property rear** on Avondale Ave. which is presently zoned single family (R-1T) is being changed to commercial (CN-M) with inadequate provision to buffer adjacent residential properties.

NANA objects to the reduction of the lot size designation (SF-20 to SF-10 or SF 10 to SF 6, etc) when the reduction would allow space for more than one house to be built on the existing lot NANA also objects to changes in the text of the zoning code that will permit Bed & Breakfast and Child Day Care businesses in SF-10 and SF-20 zoned districts. It would also permit commercial vehicles to park on streets in residential districts. Group homes for convicted felons are not specifically prohibited from residential zones as is provided in the present zoning. Such permitted uses in our residential neighborhood would change the character and ambiance of North Avondale.

Council member David Pepper, Chair of City Council's Neighborhood & Public Works Committee, is scheduling three (3) joint Planning Commission and Neighborhood Committee public hearings on the proposed new zoning code during the summer, times and places to be announced. Final approval of a

new zoning code will take place next September. If you object to any part of the proposed new zoning code, call or write your City Council members and attend one of the public hearings.

GERSHUNY PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT – On May 20 the NANA Board and several Avondale Avenue and Barry Lane residents met with Kevin Miller and John Glassmeyer from Franklin Pierce Development Group. This company has an option to buy the Gershuny property (the empty lot on Reading Road between Avondale Ave. & Barry Lane). David Gershuny is asking around \$675,000 for his property. In order to meet this price the developers said they would have to attract a large national company like Walgreen's or CVS Drugstore. The developers were told that the neighborhood would like to see an upscale apartment/condominium with shops on the first floor similar to the proposed DeSales Plaza in E. Walnut Hills. The developers were encouraged to undertake this kind of development. If they did so, NANA was prepared to work with them to help get public funding from the city.

ANTI LOITERING ORDINANCE TO CURB DRUG SALES – After hearing complaints from citizens about the openness and frequency with which illegal drug transactions take place, City Council on May 21, 2003 passed an anti-loitering law aimed at stopping illegal drug activity. This law permits police officers who have reason to believe persons to be engaged in illegal drug activity in public parks and playgrounds, on the sidewalk in front of people's homes and in front of shops to ask the person(s) to move on and to arrest anyone who does not move on. The success of this ordinance is dependent in part on citizens reporting suspicious activity to the police or to the NANA Office at 221-6166.

JUNK VEHICLE ORDINANCE NOW IN EFFECT – The city's new enhanced junk vehicle law was passed last month to enhance quality of life in city neighborhoods by requiring these eyesores to be removed. Owners of junk vehicles can be cited and their vehicle towed whether it is on private property or on public property. If you have such an eyesore in the neighborhood call 564-1780 and also call the NANA Office (221-6166) so that NANA can follow up on your complaint.

RECYCLING OR DISPOSING OF HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD WASTE – On May 20 members of the NANA Environmental Committee attended a presentation by Carl Evert on establishing permanent stations operated by the Hamilton County Solid Waste District for the collection of household hazardous waste (HHW). HHW are such items as paints, batteries, pesticides, automobile oil, some household cleaning products, etc. NANA will consider whether to support this project at its June 10 meeting. How do you feel about having such a disposal site?

WALK YOUR WAY TO BETTER HEALTH – "Cincinnati Walks" is a lifestyle fitness program designed by the Nutrition Council to help people be active and healthy. Studies show that taking 10,000 steps (roughly 5 miles) a day can lead to better health and reduce the risk of chronic diseases like heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure and osteoporosis. When you register in the Cincinnati Walks program, you will receive an 8-week step tracker log, a Cincinnati Walks Pedometer and a program guide. For more information or to register call the Nutrition Council at 621-3262.

 Kathy Jorgensen-Finley, Community Relations Manager of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra will present at NANA's June 10 General Meeting, the CSO's exciting community summer programs and the upcoming CSO and Pops concerts at Riverbend Music Center. 🎵

The Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra led by Associate Conductor John Morris Russell will visit three communities this summer to present free **Classical Roots: Spiritual Heights Family Concerts** for the Community in **North Avondale**, Woodlawn/Lincoln Heights, and Forest Park. The chamber orchestra featuring CSO musicians will give performances at **Zion Baptist Church (630 Glenwood) on July 22**, Lincoln Heights Missionary Baptist Church on July 23, and Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church on July 24. Now in its third summer season, Classical Roots: Spiritual Heights celebrate the many contributions made by African-Americans to classical music. Each concert includes a special performance by 16-year-old violinist Gareth Johnson, the 2002 Sphinx Competition First Place Junior Division Laureate. 🎵

Maestro Russell and the CSO will feature works by African-American composer William Grant Still, popularly referred to as "the Dean of African-American Composers," as well as Harry T. Burleigh, Duke Ellington, James Weldon Johnson and J. Rosamond Johnson and living composer, Adolphus Hailstork. Other works include traditional classical selections by Bach, Bruch, Dvorák, and Saint-Saëns. 🎵

The music celebration continues with a Cincinnati Pops Orchestra concert at Riverbend Music Center with guest artists, Cook, Dixon & Young (formerly known as Three Mo' Tenors). 🎵

For more information and Pops concert tickets, call 513-381-3300 or visit our Web site: www.cincinnatisymphony.org 🎵

NANA NEIGHBORS

North Avondale Authors

Andrea Cheng (Red Bud) creates yet another wonderful book, *Goldfish and Chrysanthemums*, Lee & Low books (ages 4 to 9). It is about a Chinese American girl who helps preserve fond childhood memories for her grandmother by creating a special garden. To learn more go to: www.leeandlow.com & click Spring 2003 Books, then click on the title of her book.

Odessa Walker Hooker (Wess Park) wrote "With Heads Held High: Legacy of My Southern Parents," which can be purchased for \$19.95 by calling 513-751-6039 or at Marva Collins Preparatory School 6760 Belkerton Ave., Silverton; 513-791-4370. All book sale proceeds benefit the school. She wrote the book for her family because the younger children in her family don't know their history. To learn more go to www.cincypost.com/2003/05/12/hook051203.html.

Dear Nana News--

Why not have an article(s) on the history of North Avondale that could answer these questions: Who were the people who built these grand houses, where did they live before (find and show actual houses they came from), how did they get the money to build these houses, why did they come here, and what sort of a place was this then? This was an amazing period where people became millionaires in very short times.

Then, what happened to this area over time. How and why did it become the "Golden Ghetto"? When did the well to do move away and why? And so on.

Perhaps there is someone who would be interested in writing or investigating such a history. If so, please call or email NANA. (3)

IN MEMORIAM

Anastasia Quinn Sillett, (Rose Hill, the Belvedere) who served on the NANA Board was a Realtor with Comey & Shepherd, and also active in causes such as Civil and Human rights and Cincinnati School issues. She loved her family, friends, colleagues and Life! NANA extends condolences to her family (Clare Sillett also of Rose Hill).

Roslynn S. Golden 62, died Tuesday May 6. Roslynn was very involved in North Avondale. A unique individual whose smiling face, laughter and good cheer was visible whether she was performing in the NANA Musicals or aquasizing at the Clinton Hills Swim Club. NANA extends condolences to her family: William Larkin, Adam & Jed Golden (all formerly of North Avondale).

(Continued from page 1)

- or are required to be changed somehow. No work may be done on the project until approval is granted.
2. Plans are resubmitted with the change(s) and plans are approved or additional changes are requested (often different examiners view the plans each time they are submitted, who then find new items they want changed).

Some possible solutions:

1. Give all the required changes for the plans at one time when they are first requested by the building examiner
2. Do not add additional changes (unless the correct changes have not been adequately made) after the first request
3. Do not have different examiners view the plans
4. Computerize on-line the permit process to allow the person requesting the permit to track where it is in the process.

If you have any thoughts, comments or experiences with this process to share, please send an email to: clmorse@fuse.net or call the NANA Office at 221-6166.

IT'S FUN TO LIVE IN CINCINNATI

By Gerry Kraus

TAKE A RIDE ON THE OHIO RIVER. If you travel to Paris or Vienna you would likely take a boat ride on the Seine or Danube Rivers. So why not take yourself, your friends, and your family for a ride on the Ohio River this summer. You can even take an old-time ferry across the Ohio River at Anderson's Ferry, bike along rural Route 8 in Kentucky and then ferry back to Ohio. For boat ride information call BB Riverboats, Inc at 859-261-8500. For ferry information call Anderson Ferry Boat, Inc. at 859-485-9210.

VISIT OUR WORLD RENOWNED ZOO. People come from all over the world to visit the Cincinnati Zoo and here it is within walking or biking distance (minutes by car) from North Avondale. If you haven't been to the zoo for a while (maybe since your children were kids) you will be amazed at how this wonderful attraction has changed and enhanced and now includes seasonal horticultural displays as well as exotic fauna. Zoos are for curious people of all ages as well as a destination place for those into aerobic walking! Treat yourself to a wonderful Cincinnati experience this summer at the Zoo.



**North
Avondale
Community
Center
961-1584**

SUMMER HOURS: June 2 through August 15 – Closed July 4th

Monday – Thursday 7:15 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
 Fridays 7:15 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 Saturdays 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

SUMMER PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Summer Day Camp Training

June 2-June 6 No morning or afternoon programs
 Regular evening programs except Aerobics

Summer Day Camp Registration June 3-June 5

1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Call for an appointment

Senior Cook-Out Special Event!

June 6 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Summer Day Camp

June 9-August 15 7:15 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

CPS Free Lunch Program

June 16-August 8 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Report to the center each day by 11:15 to be counted

Summer Drop-Ins

June 9-August 15 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

ACTIVITIES & CLASSES

Adult Fitness & Sauna

M thru Th 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Dance Party 2003-Aerobics

T & Th 5:45 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Dance Party 2003-Aerobics

Sat 12:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Open Gym

M & W 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Senior's Fitness

M thru F 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Seven Star Dragon Karate

T & Th 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Teen Lounge

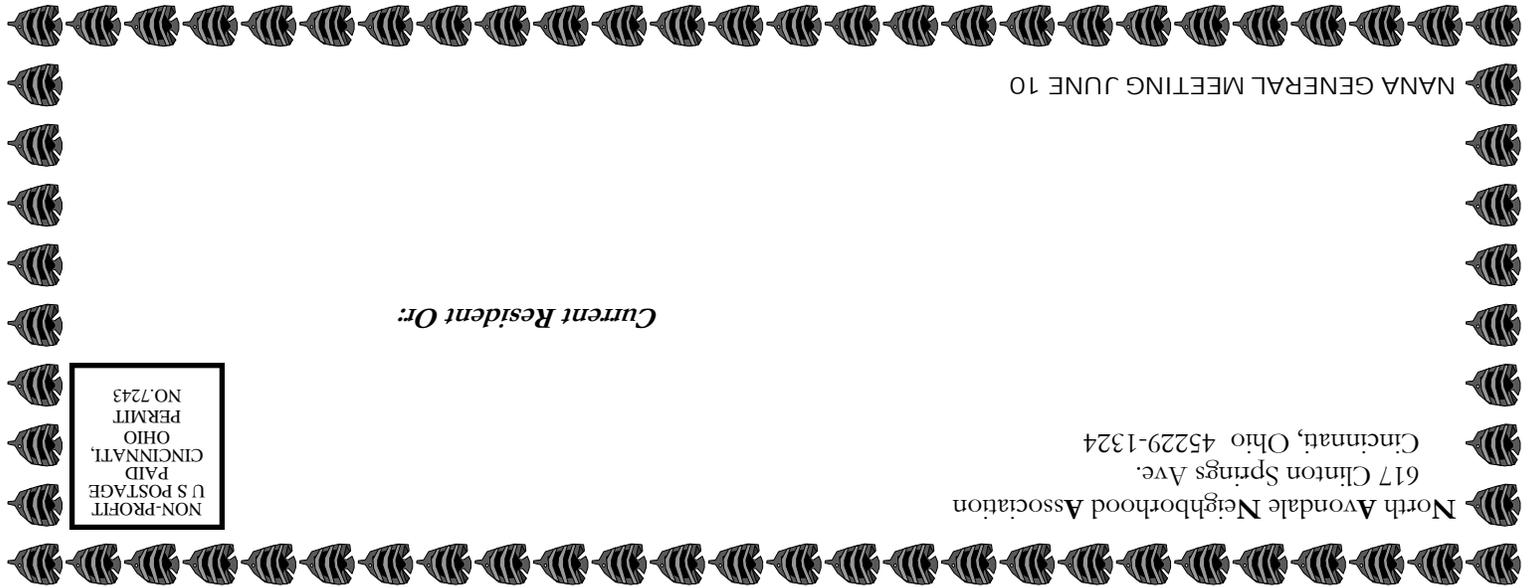
M thru Th 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Yoga

M, W, Th 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

NANA CALENDAR

- **Tuesday, June 10, 7:30 p.m. NANA GENERAL MEETING**, N. A. Community Center, 617 Clinton Springs
- Saturday, June 14, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. **NORTH AVONDALE RECYCLING: MIXED PAPER** 615 Clinton Springs
- **Tuesday, July 8, 7:30 p.m. NANA GENERAL MEETING**, N. A. Community Center, 617 Clinton Springs
- Saturday, July 12, 9:00 a.m. to Noon Surrey Square, Montgomery Road, Norwood, Recycling Mixed Paper
- Tuesday, August 26, 7:30 p.m. **Rose Hill Area Block Watch Meeting** Location TBA



NANA GENERAL MEETING JUNE 10

Current Resident Or:

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

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President: John Jones 281-2596
 1st VP: Michael Walton 961-8850
 2nd VP: Barbara Henshaw 961-5275
 3rd VP: Ellen Epstein 304-6703
 Corresponding Sec.: John Arthur 961-4717
 Recording Secretary: Marilyn Smith 221-4039
 Treasurer: Heather Herr 861-8180
 Beautification: Ursula Hassel 751-4546
 City Liaison: Gerry Kraus 861-3939
 Coalition: Bill Rambo
 Eva Roberson
 Environmental: Mike Rieck
 Landlord/Tenant Relations: Pauline Daly 751-8334
 Legal Chairperson: Marvin Kraus 861-3939
 Sustaining Cincinnati: Teresa Harten 751-5897
 Welcome: Judith Titchener 281-1107
 NANA Coordinator & NANA News Editor: Charlene Morse 221-6166

NANA EXECUTIVE BOARD & COMMITTEE CHAIRS