

NANA NEWS

MARCH 2006

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Neighborhood Association
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

When the neighborhood councils were told they were losing their dedicated neighborhood police officers to be replaced by a team of police officers, everybody had an "issue".

"Who decided that?! Nobody asked us!" was the universal cry. We were definitely cantankerous and the Neighborhood Summit at Xavier was in three days! Wooohoo! So the neighborhoods stormed the summit and discovered ...that maybe city hall was listening. In fact, Lt. Col. Richard Janke was on the podium to address our concerns, and so was Council Member Cecil Thomas who took pot shots from angry citizens who were incensed by Colonel Streicher's lack of collaboration regarding our precious needs. Nothing changed though.

Except that within the week, each neighborhood president received an invitation to a private meeting with Mayor Mark Mallory. Over 30 neighborhoods were represented at a great gathering in the gorgeous, beautifully designed Cincinnati Hamilton County Community Action Agency built in the old Swifton shopping center. It was very impressive and must have cost millions.

Mayor Mark Mallory introduced his staff, including City Manager David Rager, and Neighborhood Liaison Shawn Butler; and immediately got down to the business at hand – the business of listening. Without grandstanding, defensive explanations, or finger pointing, he listened... listened for two hours – and we said our peace. Some of us blasted the city with our snubbed noses, and hurt egos - others fired off questions like:

- What happened to all the money in the Clean and Safe Neighborhood Fund?
- Why did Chief Streicher exclude us from decisions about neighborhood officers?
- Why was our money from NSP cut so drastically and when will it be restored?
- Who's going to help us with abandoned buildings, graffiti, junk cars, weeds, speeding, crack houses, and hoodlums hanging on street corners?

When the dust settled, and we had eaten all the free cookies and chips, we felt better. There were no promises, no speeches, and no proclamations. The Mayor had listened solemnly, honestly and without rebuttal. Will things change? – I don't know, but I believe it was the first time that somebody who has the power to change our city... listened... and that's a start.

Marilyn Smith

NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICER PROGRAM

At NANA's February General Meeting a Proclamation of support and gratitude from North Avondale was presented to Captain Schmalz and District 4 by Council Member Cecil Thomas (Clinton Springs). A special thanks with a gift was presented to our Neighborhood Officer Jana Cruse.

A change made by Colonel Streicher in the Neighborhood Officer program (see the President's Message) caused quite an uproar from neighborhoods throughout the city. So, what did the Neighborhood Officer Program do? It dealt with "Quality Of Life Issues." Too often officers are forced to deal with the big crimes which are in themselves symptoms of unresolved problems in our society. Crimes often occur in buildings where landlords are not in control. Children and adults don't always feel comfortable asking for help from the police or giving them information that could help solve crimes. What neighborhood Officers did was build bridges. Jana personally worked with landlords in problem buildings teaching them how to deal with their tenants. This resulted in tenants either leaving the building or behaving and crime going down in the area. She helped with block watches, CPOP, the North Avondale School, Burton School, abandoned vehicles and came to our NANA Meetings.

In general the ten Neighborhood Officers assigned to the District Four area each worked in the schools building relationships with children. They attended numerous meetings, ran programs, participated in neighborhood clean-ups and neighborhood sweeps all while helping to identify problems and solutions. (*see end of article for a more complete listing of tasks) Then they did all the paperwork, community notifications and regular police runs and duties.

How will all these duties get divided by three people on three different shifts who have only a small amount of time dedicated to complete these tasks? Or will we go back to simply treating the symptoms?

(Continued on page 4)

NANA GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY
MARCH 14,
7:30 p.m.

NORTH AVONDALE
RECREATION CENTER
617 Clinton Springs Ave.

AGENDA

- See the New North Avondale Brochure
- What can NANA do for you? What can you do for NANA?
Come get involved





The Senior Line Dancers attending the Valentines Luncheon/Dance enjoyed themselves. This was a catered function and it was delicious!

Our Basketball leagues and our floor hockey team season is coming to a close in March.

MARCH

NORTH AVONDALE RECREATION CENTER
961-1584

HIRSCH RECREATION CENTER
751-3393

- 2nd & 3rd 5 p.m. (1st thru 3rd graders perform) "The Krinch Stole Easter"
- 6 Summer Day Camp Registration begins The fee is \$670 for the summer. This includes center membership, city pool token (pass) and weekly trips. Call the center for more information
- 23 & 24 6 p.m. (Thursday & Friday) 4th thru 6th graders perform "The Krinch Stole Easter"
- 31 (Friday) (7 a.m. to 6 p.m.) all day Day Camp. \$15 if not enrolled in our After School Day Camp or Bridge Gap programs.
- Spring Break Mini Camp will be \$75 for all who register for the week. (field trip to be announced)
- 26 (Sunday) at 3 p.m. Basketball Awards banquet .

▪Hirsch Hours of Operation: Monday - Thursday 10-9 p.m., Friday 11:30-8 p.m.

- After school Day camp for kids 6-12 yrs. 2 to 6 p.m. \$20.00 per week Custodial Care & Educational Activities
- Senior programs and activities Tuesday & Thursday 2:00-6:00 p.m.
- Aerobics Classes Every Tuesday & Thursday 5:45-7 p.m. (Free with center membership) Certified Instructor Lea Smith.

MARCH

- 6, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Basketball Tournament (ages 14-17)
- 13 Basketball new 14-17 league play begins
- 11, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Tax Help Super Saturday**
- 13, 4 - 6 p.m. **Free Haircuts for Kids** 6-12 yrs. old (Center Members)
- 20 Summer Day Camp Registration begins (\$500 for the Summer (Biweekly & weekly rates available)
- 24, 4 - 6 p.m. **SPECIAL PERFORMANCE EVENT**
- 27, 4-6 p.m. **Free Haircuts for Kids** 6-12 yrs. old (Center Members) Steve Ficklin, Licensed Barber

NEIGHBORS

Dr. Eric Beatty (S. Fred Shuttlesworth Circle) is known as the Traveling Foot Doctor, bringing the art of house calls back into the physician profession by providing foot care treatment in patient's homes. His services include, but are not limited to: nail problems, diabetic foot care, arch pain, corns, calluses, bone spurs, heel pain, fractures, sports related foot & ankle injuries, bunions, hammer toes, nerve conditions, ulcers, and plantar warts. Any neighbor in need of his services can reach him at 703-3766. He travels throughout the Southwest Ohio area.. Website is www.footpros.com .



2006 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL

Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____ name _____ date _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Annual Dues \$5 \$10 \$25 \$50 or \$ _____

Thank you! Please make your check payable to NANA.
Send Checks to the NANA Office 617 Clinton Springs, 45229



MARCH AT NORTH AVONDALE SCHOOLS

NORTH AVONDALE MONTESSORI SCHOOL • 363-3900
615 Clinton Springs

March

- 6 Monday, LSDMC
- 8 Wednesday, Parent Information Evening – ADHD
- 11 Saturday, School Clean up
- 17 Friday **Taste of NAM Potluck**
- 22 Wednesday, Evening with the Principal
- 24 Friday, Kids Night with Chris Emerson
- 28 Market Day Pickup 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- 31 Records Day - *No School*

April

- 3 - 7 Spring Break - *No School*

BURTON SCHOOL • 363-9700 876 Glenwood Ave

March Theme is Fairness

- 22 Wednesday, Academic Fair
- 31 Records Day - *No School*

April

- 3 - 7 Spring Break - *No School*

THE NEW SCHOOL • 281-7999 • 3 Burton Woods Ln.

Summer Camps in Handwriting and Acting

Handwriting Camps will help your child to learn and refine handwriting skills in the area of print and cursive writing. Three sessions are offered, June 12 – 23, July 10- 21 and July 24-August 4. **Mastering Print** classes are from 8:30 to 10 am. **Mastering Cursive** classes are from 10:15 to 11:45 am. This is direct instruction in a small group of five students. Cost is \$370 for a two-week session, which includes supplies and conference with teacher.

Children grades 1 to 6 will enjoy **Let's Do a Play** from June 12 – 16, and **Video Acting** from June 26 to June 30. Both camps explore learning acting techniques with performances on Fridays. Children in grades 3 to 6 will enjoy **Comedy Improvisation** from June 19 to June 23. Children will stretch their creative muscles while creating wacky characters and playing acting games. Acting camps are fun and challenging. Camps will meet from 12:30 to 4:30 Monday - Friday. Cost is \$150 per week. Call to register or for more information.

OUTDOOR DRINKING AND ENTERTAINMENT

By Gerry Kraus

There is a proposal before City Council to amend the zoning code to **extend outdoor eating regulations**

- (1) **to include drinking establishments (bars),**
- (2) **to permit outdoor entertainment and**
- (3) **to eliminate limitations to the hours of operation in outdoor areas.**

PROXIMITY TO RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS:

The proposed amendment would make outdoor areas with or without outdoor entertainment a **permitted** use for limited service (fast food, pizza, carryout) restaurants and for drinking establishments (bars) as well as for full service restaurants with only two restrictions.

If the restaurant/bar is within 500 feet of a residentially zoned district, the outdoor area may

- (1) not exceed 50 % of the indoor area accessible to the public and
- (2) it must cease any **outdoor entertainment** between midnight and 7 AM on Friday and Saturday and 11 PM and 7 AM on all other days.

Otherwise, the proposed change in the zoning code eliminates all time restrictions. Outdoor eating and drinking would be able to operate 24hrs/7 days. Presently the zoning code permits outdoor eating only to full service restaurants. Nor does the present zoning code permit entertainment in any outdoor areas. The present zoning also prohibits the use of outdoor eating areas between 11 PM and 7 AM on weekends and 10 PM and 7 AM on weekdays.

Other proposed changes in the regulation of outdoor eating areas include:

- Extending the outdoor area from 25% to 50% of the indoor service area
- Requiring decorative walls or fencing to enclose outdoor eating areas without extending this requirement to outdoor drinking areas
- Permitting cooking facilities in outdoor areas (not presently permitted in outdoor areas)

At its February 14, 2006 meeting NANA voted unanimously to oppose any change in the regulations regarding outdoor services for eating or drinking establishments. The sentiment was that such extension of the outdoor eating regulations could negatively impact nearby residentially zoned districts. The Cincinnati Planning Commission will consider these proposed amendments to the zoning code at its March 3 meeting and then be considered by the City Council's Economic Development Committee (Chaired by Chris Bortz) later in the month.

Citizens who object to these proposed changes to the zoning code are encouraged to communicate their objections to members of City Council.

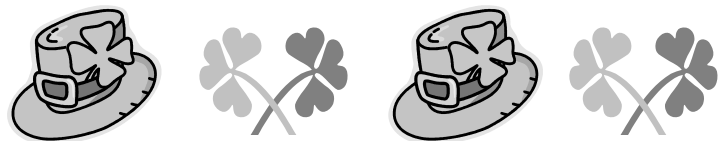


IN STAGES

By Michelle Baxter

The 2006 February Progressive Dinner Party was once again a huge success! Grace and Brian Hill, residents of Burton Woods Lane knew that the best way to socialize within a neighborhood during the winter was by organizing and having a progressive dinner party. At a Progressive Dinner a group of friends plan a meal together where each course is served at a different participant's home, so that the party literally moves from place to place throughout the evening. This party style works especially well for everyone because they can walk from home to home without worrying about organizing cars and designated drivers. Grace and Brian started this successful event three years ago within the community to bring friends and neighbors together to eat, drink and be merry! Thanks to Grace Hill, for her amazing skills and ability to continue the tradition of organizing a Progressive Dinner Party within our neighborhood. There were over 60 residents that attended this year's progressive dinner. Thanks to all the friends and neighbors that once again joined together to socialize and have fun in this annual event.

A special thanks to Deborah and Robert Collins, Michelle and Darren Baxter, Linda and Doug Sawan, Dawn and Keith Grace for opening their lovely homes to host this event. A variety of delicious foods were prepared from exquisite appetizers, to savory soups and salads, to homemade bread and luscious desserts. The visual presentation at each home was out of this world and the warm glow of luminary lined the walk ways to each participant's home! Even though the weather was cold, windy and wet that evening, residents enjoyed a beautiful evening surrounded by family, friends and great neighbors.



REMINDER:

CAR WASH & PAYDAY LOAN COURT HEARINGS

The Ohio Court of Appeals has scheduled hearings (open to the public) on two cases involving the property at 4007 Reading Road (formerly Antonio's Pizza) at the following times:

Car Wash Appeal by Paddock Point, LLC (Pescovitz Company) vs. Zoning Board of Appeals of the City of Cincinnati on **Tuesday, March 7, 2006 at 9:00 AM;**

Payday Loan Appeal by Audricia Brooks, NANA, et al. vs. Zoning Board of Appeals of the City of Cincinnati on **Tuesday, March 14, 2006 at 9:00 AM.**

Both hearings will take place in **Courtroom A of the Ohio Court of Appeals, 12th floor, William Howard Taft Law Center, 230 East Ninth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202** (formerly Cincinnati Board of Education Bldg.)

(Continued from page 1)

Duties: Youth - teaching about seatbelt & gun safety; having their yearly Secret Santa Adoption Christmas Program and their Halloween and Christmas "Candy Distribution; attending Camp Joy and Youth Summits; Meetings - Community & Business Association, block watch, police resource, churches, seniors; Programs - gun safety at schools & hospitals, crime prevention, National Night Out, Land Lord Drug and Eviction Training, Telemarketing for Fraud Prevention Education and movie day for seniors Provided Personal Safety Talks and Education for: Senior Citizens; High Schools, elementary schools and daycare facilities; Latch Key "Kids"; Nursing Homes; Hospitals; Churches; Mental Health Facilities. Tasks - Dance Hall License; Sale of City Property Investigation; Notification and Reports for Sexual Predators and Violent Offenders; Complaints generated by citizens about neighborhood concerns; Build and maintain Trespass Letters for affected Business and Property Owners; Court Appearances for Liquor Establishment Objections; Graffiti Removal and Gang Investigations reported to Intelligence Unit, Emergency Board Up and Investigation of Vacant Buildings; Nuisance Pay Phone Removal; Bi-weekly Newsletter for Captain and Beat Officers; Placement and removal of the District Speed Wagon as needed and requested by Neighborhoods; Investigation and removal of junk vehicles; Mediation and Intervention between neighbors for different problems; Early intervention for youth needing problem solving and conflict resolution skills; Home and Building Security Surveys.

The City's Parks need an updated Master Plan to guide decision making for the next 10 to 20 years. Three Public Meetings are planned. The closest to us is at Krohn Conservatory on March 29 from 6. to 9 p.m. Format will be: open house followed by presentations and then a discussion session. For more information call 475-9600

NANA EXECUTIVE BOARD, COMMITTEE CHAIRS & IMPORTANT CITY NUMBERS

President: Marilyn Smith _____	221-4039	Landlord/Tenant Relations: Pauline Daly _____	751-8334
1 st VP: Heather Herr _____	861-8180	Legal Chairperson: Marvin Kraus _____	861-3939
2 nd VP: Deborah Elkins-Brown _____	861-4108	Master Plan: Bob Novak _____	751-2161
3 rd VP: Sulayman Bajo _____	290-8781	Membership: Vanessa Wayne _____	751-4367
Corresponding Sec.: Deborah Ginocchio _____	281-2262	Neighborhood Issues: John Jones _____	281-2596
Recording Secretary: Richard McKenzie _____	751-7474	NANA Executive & NANA News Editor: Charlene Morse _____	221-6166
Treasurer: Patricia Hassel _____	751-3357	Neighborhood Officer Jana Cruse _____ Jana.Cruse@cincinnati-oh.gov _____	352-3902
Beautification: Ursula Hassel _____	751-4546	City Complaint/Request Hotline _____	591-6000
City Liaison: Gerry Kraus _____	861-3939	Request A Recycling Bin _____	242-4401
Environmental: Mike Rieck _____	961-6563	Report Air Odors 24/7 _____	946-7777

GET INVOLVED -
COME TO THE NANA MEETING MARCH 14TH
PAY YOUR NANA 2006 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**

 - **CPop Meeting (if held), First Thursday of the Month at 6:00 p.m. District 4 Police Station, Call NANA Office to confirm**
 - **Tuesday, March 14, 7:30 p.m. NANA GENERAL MEETING, 617 Clinton Springs**
 - **Tuesday, April 11, 7:30 p.m. NANA GENERAL MEETING, 617 Clinton Springs**