



NANA NEWS

MARCH 2007

Published by :The North Avondale
Neighborhood Association
617 Clinton Springs Ave. (29)
(513) 221-6166
Email: clmorse@fuse.net
Website: Northavondalecincinnati.com
Volume XXXXVI, No.6
President: Tim Yosmali
Administrator: Charlene Morse
Editor: Charlene Morse

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Neighbor,

If you are like me, the first week of March is finding you with a growing "old house" repair list as the weather (hopefully) warms up and we come out of hibernation. After we assess these projects both big and small, we might call a few contractors to get some estimates or climb up a ladder or get under the kitchen sink ourselves to make the repairs. It is important to remember, however, that many of our elderly or handicapped, low-income residents often go without these needed repairs such as plumbing, electrical or roof leaks just to name a few. But there is help available.

People Working Cooperatively (PWC) is a 32-year old non-profit organization that makes critical, minor and even maintenance repairs like free weatherization improvements available for qualified homeowners and renters in Southwest Ohio. Please contact PWC at 351-7921 for more information. For those who do not qualify for the PWC programs, please check out Hamilton County's Property Improvement Program (HIP). This is a very low-interest loan available from participating local area banks to help pay for many types of repair on your home (no matter your income level!). Please contact the HIP coordinator at 946-8234 or log on to Hamilton County's website at www.hamiltoncountyohio.gov for more information.

Almost forgot, if you have a special story about the history of your home or it's past owners, etc, we'd like to hear about it. Please call the NANA number, drop us a line or send us a email at clmorse@fuse.net and we'll include it in a future NANA news! Have a great Month!

Tim Yosmali

Pay your NANA Dues Today!

2007 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

THE UPTOWN TRANSPORTATION STUDY: RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE PRESENTED AT NANA MEETING

Representatives from the Uptown Transportation Study will attend the North Avondale Neighborhood Association's (NANA) meeting on March 13th to present the recommendations of the two-year Study. The Study looked into a variety of transportation needs in Uptown including access to interstate highways, connectivity to Downtown, transit systems, parking and wayfinding (directional signage).

At the meeting, discussion will include recommendations for both Part A and Part B of the Study. Part A investigated improvements to the larger study area including local streets, parking, signage, pedestrian and bicyclists and transit. Part B of the study focused on improving access between the Uptown area and I-71. There will be time for questions and answers.

As the lead on this Study, the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI) worked closely with community leaders, organizations and the public to provide a comprehensive community transportation study, incorporating economic development and land use components into the transportation decision-making process.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, visit the website at www.UptownTransportationStudy.org or call OKI at 621-6300 ext. 136 for more information.

Law and Public Safety Committee

Tuesday, March 13, 6:00 p.m.

Before the NANA Meeting at the

North Avondale Recreation Center

617 Clinton Springs Ave.

Jurisdiction: Police & Fire, safety policies, legal review, Collaborative Agreement and Citizen Complaint Authority.

Members: Cecil Thomas, Chair; Leslie Ghiz, Vice-Chair; Jeff Berding; John Cranley; Chris Monzel; James Tarbell

NANA General Meeting

Tuesday, March 13, 7:30 p.m.

North Avondale Recreation Center

AGENDA

Due to the snow the February meeting was cancelled

- North Avondale School - Principal Whitney Simmons, Representatives from Cincinnati Public Schools & the Recreation Commission
- Uptown Transportation Study





The Education Accountability Committee of Avondale & North Avondale: Connect Any Levy to Academic Achievement

The 2-17-07 Enquirer reveals that CPS is in such financial need that they will soon be asking us to vote on an operational levy. The Interim Treasurer indicates that the operating levy passed in 2000 was expected to last 4-5 years. The article also states that closures will probably occur earlier than planned, including some in the fall.

In December CPS voted to not build Burton School which has over 350 students and is in Continuous Improvement (academically the middle ranking of 5). South Avondale which has about 300 students and has been in Academic Emergency (lowest ranking) for 5 years was mentioned as the school the Burton students would attend. At a later meeting, a motion was passed stating that students from any closed school could not be sent to a lower achieving school.

Our support for this levy, needs to be dependent on CPS making decisions that give ALL the children in our community the best education possible. The academic progress at Burton has been due to the leadership and teaching skill of the staff. The children in our community need the continue this educational progress. We propose that the merger of the students at Burton & South Avondale be implemented by starting with the core teaching staff at Burton, which has exhibited the ability to educate our children. The additional staff needed and selected would blend with the already functioning Burton cooperative teams.

This committee and the community will support the levy when we see that CPS is making decisions that will improve academic achievement for our children. We are offering to work with CPS to have educational success for ALL the children in our community.

Pauline Daly

NORTH AVONDALE MONTESSORI SCHOOL

•363-3900 • 615 Clinton Springs Ave. •nams.cps-k12.org

March:

26 - Monday, Professional Development Day - No Students

There's Opportunity To Take Off.....

With A New School!

The State Recognized

North Avondale Montessori With Arts Emphasis

What Do You Think? Here's How YOU Can Give Input and Get Involved:

1. Families and Community: Come to the **NANA March 13th Meeting** or read the vision of the planned school on the North Avondale Montessori website. Please give your feedback on line about the opportunity for a new school. And don't forget to add your willingness to get involved if you have gardening, cooking, artistic abilities.

2. Students: You can brainstorm about the "ideal school," include your ideas in a newsletter, draw or make a models or dioramas of what a new school might look like. You can also think up a catchy phrase for the building project. The phrase securing the most votes wins. Models will be completed by March 2, 2007.

3. Families and Community: Join us at the North Avondale

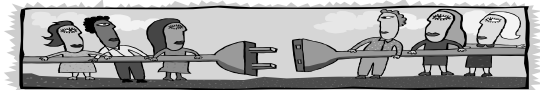
"Give Your Input" Family Dinner Night on **March 23rd** from 6:30 – 8:30 pm to see the children's models of the school and some architectural possibilities. Newsprint will be put up for anyone to write their suggestions and give their input. Look for the date soon in book-bags and community/school newsletters.

4. Teachers and school staff: Join us for **Teacher Input Days** Feb. 27 to March 2, 2007 where we ask you to please write your input to the following on the newsprint in the foyer outside of the office:

- How could gardening, cooking, and/or art work be incorporated into **your** classroom?
- What would you need in a new classroom and in the building?
- What would the "the perfect classroom" be or look like?

We're excited to be sharing with you the opportunity for a new school!

Make sure to plug in with your input!



THE NEW SCHOOL

•281-7999 • 3 Burton Woods Lane •www.thenewschool.cc

Over the winter months, The New School hosted several events for families including nationally recognized musician Justin Roberts & The Not Ready for Naptime Players at the Cincinnati Art Museum and a creative toy-building workshop led by the Toy Lab. Both events were open to the public and attracted families from all over the city. On **March 15 and 16**, the school will hold its annual Montessori in Motion event which allows current TNS parents to engage with their children in various aspects of Montessori education as well as the unique fine arts classes offered at the school. Also in March, 6th graders will take a trip to Washington, DC. The New School is a Montessori

YOUR NEIGHBORHOODS

Former North Avondale Residents & Business owners Charles & Rick Pescovitz Have opened RALLY'S Car Wash on Montgomery Rd at Cleanay in Norwood (just north of Dana). The Wash is open 24 hours a day.

IN MEMORIAM

Gina Petersen Stack, (Ledgewood) died Wednesday, February 14, 2007 from melanoma at Hospice of Cincinnati in Blue Ash. She was 52. Gina was a pediatric nurse for 30 years and volunteered at the Tri-State Bleeding Disorders Foundation.

Our condolences to: her husband James, children Brian, Rebecca and Kelly; Jan & Bob Leslie and family (her sister, who recently moved from Avon Fields); her mother Norma Petersen and all the Petersen and Stack relatives.

Marilyn Arthur, mother of **John** (past NANA Corresponding Sec.) & **Curtis Arthur, Jim Obergefell** (past NANA President) and **Sophia Vidas** (Betula) and loving partner of Steve Clark (Avon Fields), passed away on January 24 at the age of 64. Our condolences.

FUTURE OF NORTH AVONDALE SCHOOL

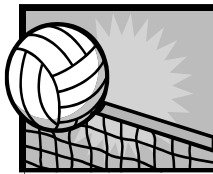
By Gerry Kraus

The discussion of the future of the North Avondale School building, on the agenda of the cancelled (because of snow storm) February NANA meeting, will be on the agenda of its March 13 meeting. The Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) is considering replacing the present North Avondale School building with a new building as part of its Facilities Master Plan. The original plan was to renovate the existing building, providing updated electronics, fixtures and furniture as well as air conditioning. The history of the North Avondale School was related in the February, 2007 NANA News - see NANA website www.northavondalecincinnati.com. This raises several questions:

- Why has the plan to renovate been changed to replace the present building?
- What are the present deficiencies that need to be corrected?
- Where will the students in the present Montessori program be relocated while the present structure is demolished and a new structure built? It is estimated that it will take 3-4 years after students have been relocated before they can return.
- Will having a new building improve the academic quality of a school? The North Avondale Montessori School is currently rated as an academic "high achieving" school.
- What will happen to the Recreation Center, the gym, the multi-purpose room, the tennis courts, the ball fields, the nature trails and the Sgt. Sam Kessler Memorial entrance?
- Has consideration been given to the historic significance and architectural uniqueness of the present structure?
- Has consideration been given to how disruptions in replacing the present school building will affect the present Montessori program and/or the North Avondale neighborhood?
- What will happen to the bond money for new/renovated schools now that the revised CPS Facilities Plan has been reduced from 66 to 51 schools?

Now we are told that CPS officials are preparing to chop as much as \$39 million from the districts projected fiscal 2007-08 operating (to be distinguished from its capital) budget of about \$430 million (see Pauline Daly's article). According to an *Enquirer* article (February 17, 2007) CPS employs about 3,000 teachers, librarians, counselors, psychologists and substitute teachers for a student population of 32,200 students. As I recall, 3,000 is about the number of teachers and other professionals employed in the 1970's when my children attended CPS and when the student population was 86,000! This raises a whole set of other questions including:

- Why are so many teaching professionals needed when today's CPS student population is less than 40% of its student population in the 1970's?
- What CPS is doing to attract the many students living in the Cincinnati School district who have left CPS for alternative educational options?



HIRSCH CENTER • 751-3393

• 3630 Reading Road •

NEW EMAIL: Hirsch@cincinnati-oh.gov

Must have a membership to part-take in programs.

Youth

- After School Day Camp – 2:15pm – 6pm \$20 per week (Follows CPS schedule)
- Flag Football Sign Up – call for details
- Spring Break – Mon. April 9 – Fri. April 13 / \$5 per day

Teens

- Open Gym 5:30pm-6:30pm M-TH
- Flag Football Sign Up – call for details

Adults & Senior

- Free Senior Fitness 10am-12pm
- Senior Tai Chi – call for details
- Free Senior Yoga – Tues. & Thur. 10am-12pm
- Weight Room - Mon.-Thur 12pm -8pm / Fri. 12pm-6pm \$10 for 3 months
- Adult Open Gym - Wednesday -7pm-9pm

Summer Day Camp Registration:

- Priority Registration – Beginning Thursday, March 5th 2-6pm
- Open Enrollment Registration – see staff

NORTH AVONDALE • 961-1584 • 617 Clinton Springs

NEW EMAIL: northavondale@cincinnati-oh.gov

Must have a membership to part-take in programs.

Youth

- After School Day Camp – 2:15pm – 6pm \$120 per month (Follows CPS schedule)
- Bridge Gap – 2:15pm – 4:30pm \$75 per month (Follows CPS schedule)
- Mini Camps – 7am -6pm / Mon. Mar. 26 & Fri. April 6 / \$15 per day
 - Spring Break – 7am -6pm / Mon. April 9 – Fri. April 13 / \$75 for the week

Teens

- Open Gym 7-8:30 pm (currently) Wed. & Fri.
 - Starting Mar. 12 - Mon. Wed. & Fri.
- *(Gym will be closed the evenings of Fri. Mar 9th and Fri. Mar. 23 due to Cincinnati Public Schools North Avondale Montessori Special Event). Teens should call Lauri the center for alternative evening activities.*
- Teens 'Til Ten – Friday March 16th 6-10pm (Pizza, Play Station 2 and other games all for only \$1)

Adults & Senior

- Aerobics (Jeff Shelby's Workout Party)
 - Tuesday & Thursday 6-7:30 pm & Sat. noon-2pm \$5 per class or \$25 per month
- Free Head to Toe (exercise class) - Tuesday & Thursday 10am-11pm
- Free Line Dancing - Mon. & Wed 10am -11:30pm
- Free Sauna - Mon.-Fri 9:30am -8pm / Sat. noon-2pm
- Free Tai Chi Thursdays 6-7pm
- Free Walking Club - Tuesday & Thursday 11am-12pm
- Free Yoga – Mon. & Wed. 6-7pm
- Weight Room - Mon.-Fri 9:30am -8pm / Sat. noon-2pm

(Continued on page 4)

Around Town: ▪The Cincinnati Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. annual fundraiser, "An Evening With Soul: Celebrating Kings and Queens," featuring the pioneering R&B/funk band "Con Funk Shun." At 7 p.m. Saturday, March 17, at the Cintas Center at Xavier University. Tickets are \$100 per person and are available now. For more information, send an e-mail to jackandjillgala07@aol.com or visit jackandjillcincinnati.org.

▪ Quality of Life Team Training on Thursday, March 22, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at Madisonville Community Center, 5320 Stewart Avenue. *One by one...street by street* Learn to hold City services accountable for action by identifying any properties and property owners that are in non-compliance of any City ordinance that is causing disorder in your community, follow an established process and be persistent in resolving the issue. Please RSVP by March 16th to 352-3640 or christa.criddle@cincinnati-oh.gov.

▪Get ready, get set, get healthy is the mind set that families will be exposed to at the fourth annual conference and health expo, sponsored by The Center For Closing the Health Gap on Friday April 13 and Saturday April 14, 2007. To register by March 22 or for more information call 585-9876 or visit their website at www.closingthehealthgap.org.

(Continued from page 3)

\$10 for 3 months

Summer Day Camp Registration:

▪ **Priority Registration** – Beginning Thursday, March 1st 2-6pm

▪ **Open Enrollment Registration** – Starts Monday March 11th 2-6pm

Special Mystery Trip - April 13 & 14

The cost is \$173 due by April 1st. Spaces are limited. Please contact Brandi and the N. Avondale Ctr.

Art Show & Pee Wee Prom May

Senior Fashion Show Sat. October 11th - Please call Brandi if you are over 50 and would like to model clothing. It will be FUN!

NANA EXECUTIVE BOARD, COMMITTEE CHAIRS & IMPORTANT CITY NUMBERS

President: Tim Yosmali _____	641-1244	Legal Chairperson: Marvin Kraus _____	861-3939
1 st VP: Sulayman Bajo _____	290-8781	Master Plan: Bob Novak _____	751-2161
2 nd VP: Deborah Elkins-Brown _____	861-4108	Neighborhood Issues: John Jones _____	281-2596
3 rd VP: Heather Herr _____	861-8180	Quality of Life Issues: Marilyn Smith _____	221-4039
Corresponding Sec.: Elaine Foster _____	751-8152	NANA Administrator & NANA News Editor: Charlene Morse _____	221-6166
Recording Secretary: Michelle Baxter _____	475-0441	City Complaint/Request Hotline _____	591-6000
Treasurer: Patricia Hassel _____	751-3357	Police District 4 _____	569-8600
Beautification: Ursula Hassel _____	751-4546	24 hour Neighborhood Officer _____	569-8654
City Liaison: Gerry Kraus _____	861-3939	Nonemergency Police _____	765-1212
Environmental: Mike Rieck _____	961-6563	Request A Recycling Bin _____	242-4401
Landlord/Tenant Relations: Pauline Daly _____	751-8334	Report Air Odors 24/7 _____	946-7777



GET INVOLVED!
NANA MEETING MARCH 13TH
PAY YOUR 2007 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

- Tuesday, March 13, 6:00 p.m. Law and Public Safety Committee, 617 Clinton Springs
- Tuesday, March 13, 7:30 p.m. NANA GENERAL MEETING, 617 Clinton Springs
- First Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m., COP Meeting, District 4 Police Station