



# NANA NEWS

## JULY & AUGUST 2004

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 Neighborhood Association  
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 President: Marilyn Smith  
 Coordinator: Charlene Morse  
 Editor: Charlene Morse

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

NANA doesn't do it alone. We seek your volunteer spirit. Call one of these fine board members. Thanks for your time.

*Marilyn Smith*

#### North Avondale Neighborhood Association Executive Board 2004

**President: Marilyn Smith** (Rose Hill)  
 Employed: Full Spectrum Health Centre  
 221-4039 Home 658-2829 Cell  
[mpsmith@cinci.rr.com](mailto:mpsmith@cinci.rr.com)  
 Presides over NANA meetings. Attends weekly and monthly meetings in the community regarding issues of zoning, safety, neighborhood investment, planning, block watch, and business development.

**1st Vice President: Mike Walton** (Burton Woods)  
 Employed: IRS  
 961-8850 Home  
 (No e-mail)  
 Presides over NANA meetings in absence of President. Assists President when needed. Oversees the **Safety Committee** and its subcommittees.

**2nd Vice President: Barbara Henshaw** (Rose Hill)  
 Employed: Federal Reserve Bank  
 961-5275 Home  
[hrmhenshaw@fuse.net](mailto:hrmhenshaw@fuse.net)  
 Assists President when needed. Oversees the **Education Committee** & its subcommittees.

**3rd Vice President: Ellen Epstien** (Lowry Ave.)  
 Employed: Comey & Shepherd  
 961-1009 Home, 304-6703 Cell  
[eeptstein@comey.com](mailto:eeptstein@comey.com)  
 Assists President when needed. Oversees the **Neighborhood Appearance Committee** & its subcommittees.

**Recording Secretary: Steve Kenat** (Lowry Ave.)  
 Employed: GBBN Architects  
 242-3492 Home  
[SKenat@gbbn.com](mailto:SKenat@gbbn.com)  
 Records proceedings of Executive Board meetings and the NANA monthly meetings. Prints and makes available printed copies of minutes

**Corresponding Secretary: John Arthur** (Betula Ave.)  
 Employed: Siebel Software  
 961-4717 Home, 602-4717 Cell  
[jmont1010@yahoo.com](mailto:jmont1010@yahoo.com)  
 Prepares and writes all correspondence based on motions from Executive Board and NANA

**Treasurer: Heather Herr** (Ledgewood Ave.)  
 Employed: Comey and Shepherd  
 861-8180 Home, 708-7770 Cell  
[hherr@comey.com](mailto:hherr@comey.com), [hrodal@yahoo.com](mailto:hrodal@yahoo.com)  
 Maintains all financial matters for NANA. Prepares monthly financial report for review. Maintains:Checking Accounts; Savings Accounts; Investments; Manages NSP

**Beautification Chair Ursula Hassel** (Dakota Ave)  
 Volunteer: Community Activist  
 751-4546 Home, No e-mail

**City Liaison Chair Gerry Kraus** (Stratford Pl)  
 Volunteer: Community Activist  
 Home 861-3939, [mgkraus@one.net](mailto:mgkraus@one.net)

**Environmental Chair Mike Rieck** (Ardmore Ave.)  
 Volunteer: Community Activist  
 961-6563 Home, [mrieck@cinci.rr.com](mailto:mrieck@cinci.rr.com)

**Landlord/Tenant Relations Chair Pauline Daly** (Dakota)  
 Volunteer: Community Activist  
 751-8334 Home, [pdaly@fuse.net](mailto:pdaly@fuse.net)

**Legal Advisor Marvin Kraus** (Stratford)  
 Employed: Tobias, Kraus and Torchia  
 861-3939 Home, 241-8137 Work  
[mgkraus@one.net](mailto:mgkraus@one.net)

**I-Team (North Avondale Master Plan Implementation)**  
 Chair: **Amy Hines** (Lenox Place)  
 Employed: Comey & Shepherd:  
 281-5244 Home, 252-7984 Cell [amyhines@fuse.net](mailto:amyhines@fuse.net)

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**Thank You Green-up Day Volunteers:** Carol Allen, Jan Banks, Edie Gaudio, Betsy Gotwals, Teresa Harten, Ursula Hassel, Brian & Grace Hill, Gale Howe, John Jones, Marian Miller, Marilyn Smith, Ryan McGinnis, Charlene Morse, Pat Paul, Sue Ann Spears & Cindy Starr. Seasingood Park & Dana Triangle look beautiful because of your hard, hard work!

NANA MEETING	AGENDA
TUESDAY	• Hamilton County
JULY 13 <sup>th</sup> , 7:30 p.m.	Municipal Court's Private
	Complaint Mediation
	Service (PCMS)
NORTH AVONDALE	• CITIZEN PRIORITY REQUESTS
COMMUNITY CENTER	(for both, see articles pg 3)
617 Clinton Springs Ave.	

**CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE COMES TO  
NORTH AVONDALE  
By Gerry Kraus**

At its June 8 meeting NANA hosted the Neighborhood & Public Services Committee of City Council. Committee Chair Councilmember Laketa Cole has initiated the "Neighborhoods in the Neighborhoods" program to further her goal of making city government more accessible and responsive to the concerns of citizens. Also present were Committee members David Crowley, David Pepper and Chris Smitherman. Presentations were made by city administrators on the City's Safe & Clean Neighborhood Fund, the Home Ownership Program and the new Housing Court docket for prompt enforcement of building code and other quality of life code violations (litter, air pollution, etc.). Then the Committee listened to the concerns expressed by North Avondale residents. They included:

- **NANA President Marilyn Smith** (Rose Hill Ave.) who expressed NANA's concern about the suggestion that the name of the North Avondale Community Center be changed to honor former State Senator William Bowen. The North Avondale Center identifies us. By changing the name of the Center, it would remove our identity as a neighborhood. NANA agrees that Senator Bowen should be recognized – and she gave several alternative suggestions – but not at the expense of our identity as a neighborhood.
- **Gerry Kraus** (Stratford Place) requested that a crosswalk from the Belvedere Condominiums to the new medical office of Dr. Dorothy Shaffer (from the northwest to the northeast corner of Reading Road/Clinton Springs) be installed.
- **Amy Hines** (Lenox Place), comparing North Avondale's most visible traffic corridor to a billboard advertising our neighborhood, talked about the need for City help to address the abandoned buildings along the North Avondale segment of the Reading Road corridor.
- **Cynthia Payne** (N. Fred Shuttlesworth) recommended that police "walking the beat" rather than driving in cars through the neighborhood would result in more friendly relations between police and residents and a decrease in crime. She also asked when the sidewalk on the north side of N. Shuttlesworth (near the tennis courts) would be completed as promised by the city more than 3 years ago.
- **Audricia Brooks** (Paddock Road) who lives about six feet from the property line of a proposed car wash expressed her opposition to this development. She said she wanted "to give a face" to NANA's opposition to this car wash. She hoped that a more neighborhood friendly business where neighbors could "meet and greet" would be developed at this site.
- **Dr. Dorothy Shaffer** (Valley Lane and also Reading Road) – stressed how important the crosswalk from the Belvedere to her Reading Road office is to the success of her medical practice.
- **NANA Coordinator Charlene Morse** (Burton Woods Lane), citing the high speed of vehicles on Wess Park Drive, said that the city's Street Calming Program should be funded

again and the streets prioritized as to need for street-calming rather than chronologically by the date the request was made.

- **Marvin Kraus** (Stratford Place) talked about how the city's tax abatement program is being "sabotaged" by the Hamilton County Auditor's office; the need to review the deployment of police officers after he saw 8 police officers and 5 police cars respond to and stay for several hours at a single traffic accident on Reading Road last week; and the replacement of 5 street trees that had been knocked down because of this traffic accident. He also added his support for a crosswalk (see above) noting that Dr. Shaffer had spent a considerable amount of her own money restoring what had been a neighborhood abandoned building eyesore without any financial help from the city. All she and the neighborhood wanted from the city was a crosswalk for the convenience and safety of neighbors walking to Dr. Shaffer's office.
- **Ben Dwertman** (Rose Hill), selected by NANA to intern for Councilmember Christopher Smitherman, thanked the neighborhood, Councilmember Smitherman and Smitherman's staff for a wonderful and valuable experience. He had gained a heightened sense of the value of public service which he hoped to apply in his studies at American University this September (see June 2004 *NANA News* for Dwertman's article).

Councilmembers Cole, Crowley, Pepper and Smitherman thanked the community for responding so enthusiastically to the Neighborhoods in the Neighborhood program. They promised to follow up on all the concerns expressed by citizens. Judging from the number and variety of issues addressed from many areas of the neighborhood, this unique program for neighbors to speak to their elected officials has to be deemed a great success – at least in North Avondale!

**Making Strides Against Breast Cancer**

If it hasn't already, breast cancer will likely touch you or someone you know. The disease will strike more than 200,000 times this year and claim more than 40,000 lives. Join **Making Strides** and help make breast cancer a thing of the past. Making Strides is a non competitive walk designed to raise awareness, foster camaraderie, and raise funds for breast cancer research, patient services, education, and advocacy.

The success of **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer** depends on you. With your help there will be additional support for these programs:

- Research ● Early Detection ● Advocacy ● Cancer Survivors Network ● Reach to Recovery ● Hope Lodge

Learn more about how you can be a part of the plan to fight breast cancer on October 24, 2004.

American Cancer Society ● 2808 Reading Road Cincinnati, Ohio 45206 ● (513) 587-2102.  
[Wendy.Brodeur@cancer.org](mailto:Wendy.Brodeur@cancer.org).

This is a wonderful opportunity for our neighborhood to be noted for our compassion and generosity.

**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT - AUGUST 3**  
**By Pauline Daly**

At the May General Meeting, NANA approved the plan by Officer Cruse and Pauline Daly to participate in National Night Out on **Tuesday, August 3, from 5 to 8 pm at Martin Luther King Park** (corner of Burton & Reading Road.)

The Police Department will concentrate on the children, providing different offerings for younger and older children. For small children, there will be safety teachings on such issues as strangers, street smart traffic safety, bullies, at home alone, internet safety. For older children there will be, street and gun violence, teen dating, and crime prevention.

Burton School will have information on their programs and progress in helping the community through the children.

The Institute for the Practice of Peace will provide information on peace efforts in Cincinnati.

For further information or to participate, call Pauline Daly, committee chair, at 751-8334.

**THE CITIZEN PRIORITY REQUEST (CPR)** is a process whereby the City obtains information from Community Councils on projects that are paramount to the preservation and/or revitalization of each neighborhood. This information on communities' priority projects is reviewed by appropriate City Departments during their 2005 budget preparation. Potential funding options for the priority projects are considered and recommendations on projects are made to the City Council in the proposed budget. **Each community is asked to submit three priority projects by July 15th** If you have any suggestions, please call the NANA office and leave a message or email at [clmorse@fuse.net](mailto:clmorse@fuse.net) before the NANA July 13 meeting.

**VICTORY PARKWAY PARKLAND IMPROVEMENTS:** Xavier will be spending \$50,300 to improve the appearance of the area between Victory Parkway & Hayden Field. The plans call for installation of 10 trees, 50 bushes and 800 plants for ground cover on the sloped area. They are also planning on removing the gravel and cinders that are prevalent in the area, installing topsoil and planting a lawn in its place.

**FREE FALL RELEAF TREES:** To receive information on the free trees available from the city through its Fall ReLeaf Program, call 861-9070 ext 21 and leave your name, mailing address & phone number. Orders must be submitted by the end of August and trees will be available to pick up in October to plant.

**HAMILTON COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT'S PRIVATE COMPLAINT MEDIATION SERVICE (PCMS)** provides mediation as an alternative to the formal court system for private citizens who have disputes of a criminal misdemeanor or civil "small claims" nature. Mediation allows parties to resolve their differences in a confidential setting with a trained mediator. A representative will be at the July 13 NANA Meeting to speak & pass out information

**CAR WASH OUT!**  
**By Gerry Kraus**

On June 21, 2004 the City's Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) reversed the decision of the City's Hearing Examiner, Steve Kurtz, and decided unanimously by a 3-0 vote that a car wash business could not be located at the corner of Reading/Paddock Roads (formerly Antonio's Pizza). Over 25 residents (including Councilmember Christopher Smitherman and some residents from Paddock Hills) were present at this hearing to support lawyers Marvin Kraus (representing NANA and Audricia and Julia Brooks who live next door to the car wash site) and Bill Rambo (representing North Avondale residents Mary Dee & Bob Novak, Janet & Bob Banks and Betsy & Clayton Gotwals) who most eloquently spoke on behalf of the merits of the neighborhood's objection to this car wash. As this newsletter goes to press the ZBA's written decision has not been completed and sent out. The Car Wash developers have 30 days from the date that ZBA's written decision is mailed out to appeal the decision of the ZBA to the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas. NANA will relay this information in the next NANA News.

Regarding the proposed Pay Day Loan business the ZBA stated that NANA filed its objections to the decision of Zoning Director Reginold Lyons too late. Lyons had made two decisions: one on February 17, 2004 based on EQ-UD rules and one on March 25, 2004 based on Transitional Zone (T-Zone) requirements. NANA's lawyer, Marvin Kraus, explains that the Lyons decision that NANA was appealing (and was in time) was the one made on March 25<sup>th</sup> in which, under T-Zone rules, a public hearing is required. The ZBA based its "out of time" ruling on Lyons' February 17<sup>th</sup> decision that an EQ-UD public hearing was not required. NANA was objecting to the determination by Lyons that the city did not have to conduct a T-Zone public hearing on use of the Antonio Pizza site for a Pay Day Loan because "a Pay Day Loan business is not substantially different from a Pizza restaurant!" This ZBA decision is appealable by NANA to the Common Pleas Court

To further confuse matters, the application filed by the developers with the Building & Inspections (B&I) Department to operate a Pay Day Loan business has not been approved – the B & I Dept. records show that the initial application has been denied – because no plan for the Pay Day Loan has, to date, been submitted. NANA *et al.* will also have an opportunity to object to this business at such time that a plan is submitted by the developers to B&I. It is interesting to note that while the Zoning Director determined that there was no substantial difference between a Pay Day Loan business and a restaurant, a B&I inspector wrote on the initial application that replacing a restaurant with a Pay Day Loan constituted a "change of use" of the property.

**NANA NEIGHBORS**

**John & Sydney Wallis and Heather & Rick Wallace** (S. F. Shuttlesworth) were featured in the June 8, *Enquirer Tempo* section. The two neighbors combined have 22 children with 13 adoptions. The Wallaces now live in former NANA President John Angelo's home.



(Continued from page 1)

**SEEKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS INTERESTED IN:**

**Beautification:** Neighborhood landscaping issues Beautification projects; Neighborhood Garden projects; Outreach garden and streetscape projects.

**City Liaison:** Zoning issues; Building permit issues; City of Cincinnati concerns.

**Education:** Establishing relationships with area schools; Advisory Boards for Community Center; Promoting programs and workshops for: Neighborhood preservation. Cultural issues, Neighborhood investments.

**Environmental:** Air & Water Quality concerns; EPA Standards; Local government agencies; Dumping; Business air emissions.


**Landlord/Tenant Relations:** Developing communication between landlord and tenants, Recruiting participation in NANA from apartment dwellers, Involvement in student/parent activities in Burton School.

**Legal:** Core legal pool to NANA concerns; Zoning, environmental; business; Development Corporation activities.

**Neighborhood Appearance:** Streetscape Plans; Quality of Life issues; Signs, plaques, side walks; IDC Liaison; Zoning, Beautification, Master Plan.

**I-Team (North Avondale Master Plan Implementation):** Marketing strategy for the neighborhood, Enhance the Business District - recruit potential investors, Work with nearby communities.

**Safety** - interested in curbing: Drug trafficking; Continuous vandalism/Gang related concerns; Poor lighting issues/Block Watch concerns; Neighborhood Police liaison; Trespassing problems/Car break-ins and theft; CPOP (Community Problem Oriented Policing) that meets with Community Police on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of ea. Month 6:00 pm District IV, Reading Road.



**North Avondale Community Center  
961-1584**

- Drop-In program with free lunch is M-F, 11:30 to 3:00 p.m. Membership card required.
  - Drum Corps practice outside on Monday & Wednesday evenings
  - Senior line dancing has added an additional day. Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Membership card is required.
- If you have any questions or issues to discuss, please feel free to call the center between the hours of 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. If you leave a message, please leave a name and phone number so the center can get back to you to answer the question or address the issues.

*Current Resident Or:*

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

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

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OHIO  
PERMIT  
NO. 7243

NO AUGUST MEETING  
NANA MEETING JULY 13

**NANA CALENDAR**

- Saturday, July 10, 9:00 a.m. to Noon Surrey Square, Montgomery Road, Norwood, Recycling Mixed Paper
- Tuesday, July 13, 7:30 p.m. NANA GENERAL MEETING, N. A. Community Center, 617 Clinton Springs
- Tuesday, August 3, 5:00 to 8:00 p. m. National Night Out, Martin Luther King Park at Burton & Reading (see article Pg.3)
- NO AUGUST NANA MEETING
- Tuesday, September 10, 7:30 p.m. NANA GENERAL MEETING, N. A. Community Center, 617 Clinton Springs
- Saturday, September 14, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. NORTH AVONDALE RECYCLING: MIXED PAPER 615 Clinton Springs.. If the dumpster is not behind the school, always look by the soccer fields down the Community Center

