

NANA NEWS

NOVEMBER 2004

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Neighborhood Association
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Coordinator: Charlene Morse
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Chris was six. Every mother knows how important Halloween is to a six-year-old. It was costume day at school – and the whole school got into this gig including the Principal. There wasn't a camera un-clicked on that day of days. Chris eagerly awaited the scary event having picked out a devil costume - red tights, black cape, horns, and best of all a pitchfork! He was dressed by 7:00 am – ready to rip out of the house and take his place with the big boys.

I was in a rush. Running late as usual. I scooped Chris into the car and tore off to school – blithely discussing what fun Chris would have on this spookiest day of days. We were a little late, all the kids were inside, but Chris was too excited to care. Grabbing his pitchfork – cape flying around his skinny legs, he was the master devil himself bounding through the front doors without so much as a “love ya’ mom”.

Pulling out the school drive, I slowly accelerated for my next event, when out of the corner of my eye in the side view mirror; I caught a flash of red streaking down the sidewalk. Could that be...? I turned to see better and yep, it was Chris – racing down the street – pitchfork hurled, followed by the horns and sweeping cape.

I stopped. Something was wrong. My child was in holy terror – streaking down the street in tights and tears. What could possibly have happened? I threw the car door open and shouted to Chris to get in. He flew into the back seat and dove to the floor in hysterics.

Chris, what's wrong? Did someone hurt you? Tell me little one, what happened?

Oh, mom, he said, tears flowing freely now... ripping off any remaining costume. It's the wrong day.... The parade is tomorrow.

Yep, true story folks. Timing is the key to success. And to tie this bit of Halloween into North Avondale – let me applaud the perfect time of the dedicated stream of neighborhood volunteers who paraded past city hall last week in determination to pitchfork the crosswalk extravaganza on Reading Road.

Thanks to an enormous last thrust from Dr. Dotty Shaffer, her husband Dr. Doug Krejsa (who'd never darkened the halls of City Hall before), Rick Wayne who loves a good fight; Vanessa, the great neighborhood orator; Spencer Konicov whose name will live in infamy; Bob Brockman and the Belvederes (sounds like a band); the “we-never-give-up” Kraus's; Charlene Morse – the crème-de-la-coordinator; Councilwoman Laketa Cole who led the charge on Council and greatly supported by Smitherman, Crowley, Reese, and thank heaven for Cranley....**THE STREET CROSSING IS GOING IN!**

Folks, we're getting' close to heaven in beautiful downtown North Avondale.

Marilyn Smith

(1)

NSP 2005 FUNDING

NANA is in the process of deciding how to spend \$12,000 NSP (Neighborhood Support Program) funds in 2005. The City of Cincinnati has for the past 20 years through the agency Invest In Neighborhoods, allocated \$10,000 per year to each of its 51 neighborhood groups for projects and activities that enhance the quality of life in each neighborhood. Last year, the City increased its allocation for each neighborhood by \$2,000, making the amount for each neighborhood \$12,000.

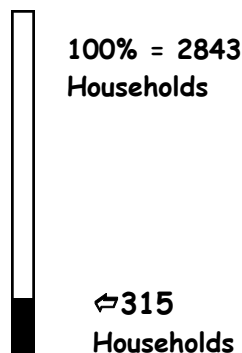
In past years NANA has spent their \$10,000 on: publishing the *NANA NEWS*, membership development, beautification (including our 22 adopted flower beds), a tutoring program & a paid coordinator to follow up on issues of safety, code enforcement, land development and zoning.

The categories in which we place our projects & activities are: Newsletter; Clean-up & Beautification; Land Development & Improvement; Environmental Affairs; Law Enforcement & Safety; Membership; and Seniors & Youth Projects. Though we can propose new categories, the majority of projects that are proposed to the Board, fit within these categories.

The Executive Committee will propose the dollar amounts for each category based on the proposed projects & activities to present to the general body. We will discuss and vote on the final 2005 NSP proposal at the NANA November 9 General Meeting.

Each year NANA would like to use some of its NSP money for new projects or activities. If you have an idea for improving North Avondale that you would like included in the 2005 NSP request, call the **NANA Office at 221-6166** or send an email to clmorse@fuse.net.

2004 NANA DUES



Thank you to the 315 Households who have paid their 2004 NANA Dues

For the rest of you PLEASE remember to send in your 2004 dues NOW so we can reach our goal.

Thank You!

RECENT ODOR COMPLAINTS IN NORTH AVONDALE & OTHER UPDATES

By Mike Rieck Mrieck@cinti.rr.com

There have been at least three recent incidents of strong and obnoxious odors. Each of these incidents was reported to the Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services (DOES). DOES personnel were able to trace at least two of the incidents to the privately held Cincinnati Specialties, Inc. (CSI) in neighboring St. Bernard. Plant personnel reported that all manufacturing and emission control operations were "normal". Through the past eight years "normal" has meant releasing continual odors, some of uncertain toxicity, on their surrounding neighborhoods.

Each of these incidents produced multiple complaint calls to DOES on their **24/7 Hotline 946 7777**. **To make your complaints, please call the hot line.** You may not always receive full satisfaction, but documentation is important as it appears these incidents are on the rise.

- Friday, Sept. 17, at 12:15 PM. - after three calls before being properly connected, I met at 2:30 p.m. with a DOES person in front of my house. The odor was at least moderate and we both noted that it was not sweet. The DOES employee called me back to say that she had visited CSI where she was pointed to a sweet-smelling methyl anthranilate (MA) product. Later, I detected the sweet MA odor.
- Saturday, Sept 25, (also came into our house) was a non-descript but powerful odor at 7 AM. But by 7:15 AM, the odor had changed to a usual CSI odor and non-sweet. At 8:30 AM, I met with another DOES worker at my home. He, too, agreed that it was not sweet. By 1:30 PM, the odor became sweet.
- Tuesday, September 28, there was a moderate non-sweet CSI odor along a block of Ardmore Ave beginning at Mitchell.

The Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) lifted a requirement for a consumer health warning label on Saccharin products. The FTC ruled that China had been "dumping" Saccharin in the U.S., which resulted in banning Chinese imports giving CSI a virtual monopoly in the U.S. as the only American producer of Saccharin. Chlorine is used in the production of Saccharin. Despite the installment of a chlorine containment building which began off-loading operations last May, the threat of chlorine gas stored in railway tankers has not been addressed. The chlorine enclosure building was completed only after six years of promising the same. While James McKenna, president, stated the construction was accomplished because of citizen pressure, it could also be because of the increase of Saccharin production. These circumstances, of increased production and increased open storage of railcars on the campus of CSI, which is in the center of a high population, is considered, by many, to be unconscionable. Highly reactive, a leaking ninety-ton railway car of chlorine has a maximum expectancy of a **fourteen mile plume**. With the usual prevailing winds from the southwest, the effects could contaminate an area from St. Bernard through Madeira.

The production of saccharin also produces an intermediate chemical, methyl anthranilate (MA). While MA is probably not harmful, as it is USDA approved as a food additive; it does serve to mask the odors from another questionable odor producing process of Tolytriazole/Benzotriazole (TT/BT) manufacturing at CSI. BT is a rust inhibitor used as an automotive anti-freeze additive. A Bioassay, on the web, indicates that three of five experimental groups of rats and mice, which were injected with BT developed cancers. Unfortunately, no inhalant studies were ever done.

CSI and the Bayer corporation formed a Benzotriazole Coalition which applied to EPA for support for a BT study on developmental (pre-natal, natal and childhood) effects. In effect, CSI and its partner had admitted to a research need. But when the coalition attempted to link their voluntary efforts to a blocking of Chinese BT imports, the EPA dismissed the coalition's attempt to obtain a *quid pro quo*.

NANA MEETING TUESDAY

NOVEMBER 9, 7:30 p.m.
NORTH AVONDALE
COMMUNITY CENTER
617 Clinton Springs Ave.

AGENDA

- NSP 2005
- Crosswalk Update
- Update on IDC



CAR WASH/PAY DAY COURT CASE

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR:

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1 AT 10:00 A.M.
THURSDAY DECEMBER 2 AT 9:30 A.M.

Oral arguments on the Payday/Check Cashing will be heard on December 1 and on December 2, oral arguments on the Carwash will be heard. Both proceedings will take place in Room 585 of the Hamilton County Court House.

Interested residents are encouraged to attend these hearings to demonstrate to the court the public interest in these issues. Direct any questions to the Nana Office at 221-6166.

On **November 17, 7:00-8:30p.m.** The New School will hold an **open house**. This is an opportunity for families to see The New School and observe their child interact in the environments. The New School is an independent Montessori school that serves children from ages three to twelve.



The New School
3 Burton Woods Lane
281-7999
www.thenewschool.cc

EVERYDAY PEOPLE FILM FESTIVAL

**Sunday November 7th, 14th, and 21st,
2:00-5:00pm**

Kelley Auditorium, Xavier University

Everyday People Film Festival seeks to unite people through the power of film. **Three FREE feature films** will be screened followed by facilitated discussion focusing on the African American, Hispanic, & Gay/Lesbian Community.

Facilitators for the films are as follows:

November 7 - Gay/Lesbian:

Ron Warns, Sales Manager Queen City Listings

November 14 - African American:

Cecil Thomas, Executive Director

Cincinnati Human Relations Commission

November 21 - Hispanic:

Lisa Quintanilla

For more information, please visit www.everydaypeoplefilms.com or **Contact:** Heather Wigle, (513) 680-0421 heather@wiglefamily.net

TREAT THE DISEASE OR THE SYMPTOMS?

By Pauline Daly

Some recent incidents on Dana have caused concern about safety in the neighborhood. NANA and Xavier are starting to look for solutions and are first analyzing the problems. As I hear the crime stats they sound much like the situation 10 years ago, except that drug dealing is not so obvious.

The solutions that automatically come to mind are for more police presence. Usually the citizens escalate their fear and anxiety and demand more out of the police. Nothing really changes because the root causes are not dealt with. The police can only deal with the symptoms. If we want to deal with the disease the neighborhood must do the job.

NANA's motto "Cincinnati's best address with: beautiful homes, great neighbors, and civic passion" doesn't always describe the whole neighborhood. Sections of it, possibly more numerous, do not attend meetings and seem to be a world away, even though they are right there on the streets as we drive past with our doors locked.

The children that started school 10 years ago are old enough to create problems in the neighborhood. Intervention in school would help these children be better neighbors and citizens. Neighborhood schools have many kinds of children, but they must educate all children in their area, no matter the problems.

Burton School is North Avondale's neighborhood school. Much progress has been made by using Positive Behavior Supports to teach behaviors. We were unsuccessful in getting a grant to bring in the Center for Peace Education. The children need help in learning about better ways of dealing with conflict.

Bringing this to Burton School would make a difference in the years to come. All the children need it, but those who are older will be active in our community first.

Obtaining funding for this program would make the neighborhood safer. It would also help if all the sections of the neighborhood associated more and developed a mutual respect.

CROSSWALK APPROVED

On October 20, 2004 City Council reconsidered the installation of a crosswalk for the NW to NE corner of Reading Rd. & Clinton Springs. Thanks to Councilmember John Cranley who joined members Laketa Cole, David Crowley, Alicia Reece and Chris Smitherman, the crosswalk was approved by a vote of 5 to 4. City traffic engineers plan to meet with the NANA Board on Nov. 2 at 7:30 pm outside the Belvedere to work out the linguistics for the crosswalk.

The four Council Members who voted against this crosswalk referred to the traffic engineers report which cited safety & "problems for traffic flow" as reasons they opposed it.

The crosswalk request has evolved into a larger issue: should our elected officials support what neighborhood residents believe is important for their community or base their decisions on what the "professionals tell them is in the best interest of a neighborhood?"

By Gerry Kraus

NORTH AVONDALE'S BLOCK WATCH LUMINARY STROLL

DONATIONS RAISED FOR KIDS CAFÉ
FROM AN EVENING OF FELLOWSHIP

By Patty Hassel

The neighborhood Block Watch for Rose Hill, Beechwood, Betula, Red Bud and Avon Fields announces their second annual **Winter Luminary Stroll on Sunday, December 5, 2004.** The event, starting at 6:00 pm, will help raise money for Kids Café, operated by the FreeStore FoodBank through the sale of the luminary kits.

The luminaries will form a continuous path of light along the sidewalks of the neighborhood and should make a beautiful winter evening walk, with stops along the way for treats, courtesy of neighborhood volunteers. The stroll builds upon last year's successful Luminary Stroll and the neighborhood's summer passeggiatas and winter walks.

Homeowners have purchased luminary kits, consisting of candles, sand and bags, to place on the frontage of their property. Through an affiliation with the Wyoming Junior Woman's Club, the kits were made available, with all proceeds benefiting Kids Café.

To get a luminary stroll started in your corner of North Avondale, get your neighbors together, choose a night, and then order the luminary kits. For group sales, please contact the Wyoming Club's Chair, Kim Greene, at 761-8986. Otherwise, for individual or small orders, please visit the Municipal Pool & Tennis Courts lot on Springfield Pike in Wyoming, Ohio on December 6, 2004 from 9-4 or December 7 from 12-4.

The Luminary Committee for Rose Hill, Beechwood, Betula, Red Bud and Avon Fields is as follows:

- Jolene Struebbe, Chair (Beechwood)
- Rose Hill Members: Tracie Conway, Patty Hassel, Clare Sillet, Valerie Williams
- Beechwood Members: Monica Blackburn, Deborah Ginocchio, Susan Harrington, Vanessa Wayne
- Betula Member: Alison Paradise
- Red Bud Members: Judie Bingham, Carolyn Gillman, Cindy Khoo-Robinson
- Avon Fields Members: Jan Johnson, Bobbie Paul, Dick Turner.

ARTWORKS (Thriller*2003*90Mins.) produced & directed by Winding Way neighbor Jim Armatulli as well as partially filmed in the neighborhood was on "Showtime" in August and will be:

**AT THE MARIEMONT THEATER
OCTOBER 29- NOVEMBER 4, 2004**

Synopsis: A police chief's daughter, a sales agent for a home-security firm, meets an art gallery owner. Love and envy lead them to hatch a plot to steal overlooked but valuable paintings from her wealthy clients.

VIEW TRAILER...<http://www.artistviewent.com/thriller/artworks/index.htm>

North Avondale Community Center • 961-1584

Julie Fatora is the new Recreation Program Coordinator for the North Avondale Community Center. She knows that Bill's shoes are big ones to fill but, she is up for the challenge.

Julie's career with the Cincinnati Recreation Commission began in 1984. She has worked at such CRC Centers as Clifton Center, Price Hill Center, Saylor Park Center, Dunham Center and Krueck Center. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from the University of Cincinnati. NANA welcome Julie to the neighborhood.

- Thanks to the efforts of, Betsy, Fanchon, Jim, Joey, John, Julie and Terri on Saturday, October 23, the planting of two cherry trees arranged by NANA through the City Fall ReLeaf Program for the North Avondale Recreation Center's Kessler Memorial. was successfully complete. Despite drizzle and existing roots these volunteers collectively and cooperatively derived the placement and completion of this project.
- The Theater class implemented by Ann James will be performing "Fella" on Thursday, November 11th and Friday, November 12th at 6pm. Fella is a take off of Cinderella. Come to enjoy this musical comedy on either night. The play is free, however donations are always welcome. Any donations will go towards the theater class program (i.e., the cast party or supplies for future performances).
- North Avondale Boosters presents the fundraising basketball event of the year! Saturday, November 13 there will be a SHOOTOUT and a GAME at 3p.m. Bulls vs.. The Lady Starzz. At 7 p.m. there is an Alumni Game (WOODWARD ALUMNI vs.. HUGHES ALUMNI). Admission is \$5 for adults and \$1 for school age children. Please come out to enjoy and sponsor our basketball program.

**North Avondale Montessori School
363-3900**

11/1	Professional Day - No School
11/8	Veterans Day - No School
11/23	Market Day Pick up, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
11/23	Grandparents Day
11/24-25	Thanksgiving - No School
12/2	Picture Retake Day

NANA EXECUTIVE BOARD, COMMITTEE CHAIRS & IMPORTANT NUMBERS

President: Marilyn Smith	221-4039	Environmental: Mike Rieck	961-6563
1st VP: Michael Walton	961-8850	Landlord/Tenant Relations: Pauline Daly	751-8334
2nd VP: Barbara Henshaw	961-5275	Legal Chairperson: Marvin Kraus	861-3939
3rd VP: Ellen Epstein	304-6703	Master Plan Implementation: Bob Novak	751-2161
Corresponding Sec.: John Arthur	961-4717	NANA Coordinator & NANA News Editor: Charlene Morse	221-6166
Recording Secretary: Steve Kenat	242-3492	Neighborhood Officer Jana Cruse	Jana.Cruse@cincinnati-oh.gov 352-3902
Treasurer: Heather Herr	861-8180	City Complaint/Request Hotline	591-6000
Beautification: Ursula Hassel	751-4546	Request A Recycling Bin	242-4401
City Liaison: Gerry Kraus	861-3939	Report Air Odors 24/7	946-7777

NANA MEETING NOVEMBER 9
REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR NANA DUES!

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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NANA CALENDAR

- Tuesday, November 2, VOTE!
- Thursday, November 4, 6:00 p.m. **CPOP** Meeting at District 4 Police station Reading Road
- Tuesday, November 9, 7:30 p.m. NANA GENERAL MEETING, N. A. Community Center, 617 Clinton Springs
- Sunday, December 5, Starting at 6:00 pm, NORTH AVONDALE LUMINARY STROLL
- Tuesday, December 14, 7:30 p.m. NANA GENERAL MEETING, N. A. Community Center, 617 Clinton Springs