



NANA NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2002

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I was on my way to the Esquire Theater in Clifton when I thought to myself, I love living in North Avondale because we're so close to everything. Then I realized there's a lot more to love about our neighborhood. During my 18 years in Cincinnati, I've lived in several neighborhoods (Northern Kentucky to the East side to the West side), but North Avondale is the neighborhood where I'll stay.

In no other neighborhood have I enjoyed the diversity North Avondale offers. My neighbors don't all look like me, don't think like me, and have had different life experiences. That's unfortunately not a given in other neighborhoods, and I believe they're missing something valuable - the opportunity to know people who are different. I've already learned a lot from the people I've met in our neighborhood, and I know my life has been enriched by those interactions.

Another thing I've noticed about our neighborhood is that we are a neighborhood, not simply a gathering of houses that abut one another. It amazes me how many people I know by name as I walk the neighborhood, and it has nothing to do with my involvement in NANA. I'd know these neighbors even if I'd never attended a NANA meeting because the people who live here have a strong sense of community, stronger than any I've experienced. Part of that sense of community is a level of involvement and commitment that amazes me. Neighbors give freely of their time and efforts to ensure our neighborhood continues to thrive, and that dedication is what encouraged me to get involved as I never have before.

From a purely aesthetic point of view, I think we have one of the most beautiful neighborhoods in the city. Our streets are filled with unique historic homes, and not a day goes by that I don't notice something beautiful I hadn't seen before. Last year, during the Cincinnati Symphony Association (CSA) Home & Garden Tour in North Avondale, many people remarked that they had no idea our neighborhood existed. I think some eyes were opened during that tour, and North Avondale can only benefit from those realizations. On October 5, North Avondale will once again host the CSA Home & Garden Tour, and I look forward to having more Cincinnatians discover our piece of paradise.

As I've already mentioned, I love the convenience of living here. In 10-15 minutes, I can be just about anywhere I need or want to be in the city. I'm definitely an urban dweller - I have no desire to live in the suburbs, fighting traffic, living in a home that looks like every other one, and having neighbors who look like and think like me. I think we have a

duty to live in the city, strengthening the city of Cincinnati at the same time we make North Avondale even better.

I feel lucky to live in our neighborhood, and I hope you do, too!

Jim

COALITION OF NEIGHBORHOODS By Rosalind Fultz & Bill Rambo

At NANA's July General Body meeting, we volunteered to be NANA's representatives on the Coalition of Neighborhoods' Board of Trustees. At that meeting the membership raised issues to be developed into NANA's working priorities with the Coalition.

Those priorities for North Avondale are: 1.) Increased law enforcement, particularly concerning anti-drug & property loss crime efforts; 2.) Obtaining more assistance from the City of Cincinnati and other sources in reducing litter; 3.) Obtaining more help from the City of Cincinnati and other sources in identifying and reducing problems with abandoned cars; and 4.) Securing a Weed and Seed designation with funding for North Avondale.

These four working priorities will guide NANA's relationship with the Coalition of Neighborhoods, which includes community council representation from Bond Hill, Evanston, Kennedy Heights, Madisonville and Paddock Hills. The Chairperson of the Coalition's Board of Trustees is Mrs. Deborah J. Greene-Boone, a North Avondale resident and a former NANA officer and board member. The At-Large Coalition Board Members are Mrs. Thelma Johnson and Mr. Ernest Robinson, also North Avondale residents and NANA members.

Everyone is encouraged to attend NANA's General Body meetings on the second Tuesday of the month for Coalition

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NANA GENERAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10TH, 7:30 p.m.

**NORTH AVONDALE
COMMUNITY CENTER**

617 Clinton Springs Ave.

AGENDA ITEMS

- PRESENTATION ON TEN PROPOSED NEW HOMES BY BASSETT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AT THE END OF EDGE HILL PLACE
- COUNTY FUNDED HOME IMPROVEMENT LOANS (SEE PG 2)



(Continued from page 1)

updates and to offer us specific ideas and suggestions that can help us to be effective on North Avondale's behalf. We attend Coalition board meetings on the second Wednesday of the month, which is the day after NANA General Body meetings.

Feel free to contact us through Charlene Morse, NANA's Coordinator at clmorse@fuse.net (221-6166) or directly at FultzCintiOH@aol.com (751-2903) or Bill@iplawrambo.com (221-7152). We would like to hear from you and appreciate the ideas and advice we have received to date. We need your opinions, neighborhood concerns, perspectives and issues as they relate to our four working priorities, in order to effectively represent you on the board.

THANK YOU TO THE VOLUNTEERS OF SAINT IGNATIUS DAY

On July 27 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Xavier Alumni volunteers, Molly Buckler, Carolyn Lucas, Dick Middendorf, Sam Stephens, and XU Site Coordinator Robert Wilking, were joined by NANA volunteers Ursula Hassel, Marian Miller, Gerry & Marvin Kraus and NANA Coordinator Charlene Morse, in weeding, planting and being eaten alive by gnats at the Dana Triangle and the giant flower bed at Washington & Clinton Springs.

Plants were donated by Natorps and Home Depot donated trowels & hoses. Xavier alumni & Home Depot employee, Ron Henlein coordinated the donated supplies. In addition, Ron and Robert serve as co-chairs of the Spiritual Development Committee of the Cincinnati Chapter of the Xavier University Alumni Association.

NANA NEIGHBORS

Andrea Cheng, (Red Bud) has another book coming out this September. The novel, *Marika* is loosely based on the life of Andrea's mother, Mary Kartal (Burton Woods Lane) from 1935 to 1945. The book written for children ages 10 and up covers roughly ten years of an Hungarian girl's life during WWII. Andrea will be signing her books at the Blue Manatee on October 12 from 1:00-3:00. For a summary and review of the book, see www.frontstreetbooks.com. and click on Marika

"Where Do We Grow From Here?" is a public forum about the future of growth in the Greater Cincinnati region **Don't miss your chance to shape the future** for regional land use and transportation.

**Thursday
September 19, 2002
7 to 9 p.m.**

Hamilton County Forum is at TECHSOLVE (formerly the Institute for Advanced Manufacturing Sciences) 111 Edison Drive (off Paddock east of I-75)

HAMILTON COUNTY HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM "HIP"

Hamilton County Commissioners have put your tax dollars to work for you.

The "HIP" loan allows homeowners in Hamilton County communities to borrow money to repair or remodel their homes or rental property at interest rates 3% below the lowest rate a bank would normally offer.

Loans may be used for ...Bathrooms, Ceilings & Walls, Central Air & Furnaces, Decks, Garages, Gutters & Roofs, Kitchen Remodeling, Landscaping, Paint & Carpeting, Plumbing, Room Additions, Siding, Windows & Doors... and much more!

Loans at 3% below market rate, 5 year term - only one outstanding loan at any given time

Available in **participating** Hamilton County communities

No Income Restrictions for eligibility

Loans capped at \$50,000

For single-family, two-family, and multi-family dwellings

Owner-occupied and investment dwellings

Single-family and two-family properties valued up to \$300,000 (based on Hamilton County Auditor's real estate appraisal)

No property value limit on multi-family dwellings (three or more units)

Loans can be used **for alteration, repair, maintenance or improvement**

Can also be used **for code violation compliance and property upgrades**

Contact participating banks:

- Fifth Third Bank: 1-800-704-2214
- US Bank (formerly Firststar): Call your local branch office
- Key Bank: Contact your local KeyCenter
- Provident Bank: Call your local branch office
- North Side Bank: Call your local branch office

Kevin Brown, "HIP" Coordinator
Hamilton County Department of Community Development
138 East Court Street, Room 507
Cincinnati, OH 45202
513-946-4988
Fax 513-946-4919
Kevin.brown@hamilton-co.org

"Get Comfortable with The Great Indoors & Country Living magazine"

6:30 p.m., Sunday, September 29

Cost: \$20 in which you will receive a \$20.00 coupon good towards a purchase of \$35.00 or more during the event. 100% ticket proceeds benefits the Cincinnati Real Estate Ambassador Down Payment Assistance Program as administered by The Home Ownership Center of Greater Cincinnati

**“WOODEN NICKEL” DONATION PROGRAM
TO HELP THE ENVIRONMENT**

The Environmental Community Organization (ECO) will be one of the featured organizations for Wild Oats Market’s “Wooden Nickel” donation program during the months of August, 2002 through January, 2003. When folks bring their own shopping bag (canvas bags, reused paper/plastic bags from a previous shopping trip, etc.) to do their grocery shopping at Wild Oats, the store gives five cents back to the customer. However, there is also the option of taking a “wooden nickel” which can be deposited into a “bank” near the store exit.

ECO has worked very closely with the NANA Clean Air Committee to improve the quality of the air that North Avondale residents breathe. Together the two groups have “encouraged” nearby chemical plants, particularly Cincinnati Specialties, Inc. in St. Bernard, to reduce the amount of pollutants they emit into the ambient air; they have worked together to encourage the University of Cincinnati to use best available technology in the planned development of its expanded power plant on short Vine Street (from which North Avondale is located downwind).

So when you go to the check-out counter at Wild Oats Market with your own shopping bag, ask for a wooden nickel and deposit it into the box designated for ECO: Environmental Community Organization. The Wild Oats Market is located in the Rookwood Commons shopping center in Norwood. For further information call ECO at 761-6140 or Gerry Kraus at 861-3939.



**Cincinnati Symphony Association
Home & Garden Tour
October 5th**

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Featuring Our Wonderful
North Avondale Homes**

**Event Chair is our own Mary Piper
(Avondale Avenue) formerly NANA Vice
President & Treasurer and forever Adopt
-a-bed volunteer.**

**For more information or to purchase
tickets, call the CSO Sales Office at
381-3300 or visit
www.cincinnati-symphony.org**

**GREAT START FOR BLOCK WATCH
By Marilyn Smith**

BLOCK WATCH



**Avon Fields
Beechwood
Red Bud
Betula
Rose Hill**

Activity in the north section of North Avondale is picking up momentum as residents gather to discuss a common sense approach to neighborhood safety. BLOCK WATCH, a nation-wide crime prevention initiative developed by the

National Crime Prevention Council, unites neighbor to neighbor in a common effort to fight the fear and isolation that crime creates. Officer Jana Cruse from District IV, gave a presentation to some thirty residents in June and BLOCK WATCH emerged to forge the neighborhood in a concerted effort to reduce burglaries, and vandalism.

“It sure is reassuring to have so many residents gather together in a common cause,” says Marilyn Smith, recently elected block watch captain. “Nearly half of the residents in our BLOCK WATCH area have signed on. Committees are forming and ideas are flying!”

The streets in this BLOCK WATCH are Rose Hill, Beechwood, Betula, Avon Fields Lane and Place, Red Bud Place and Red Bud Ave, ending at Mitchell. Some 200 homes are covered, providing extra eyes and ears for reporting crime and helping each other. Much of the communication is by e-mail, and the jam-packed meetings are held at different homes each month.

“It is not a new concept,” explains Lois Nizny, long-time North Avondale resident and Block Watch street captain. “We’ve had watches before, and we’re glad to have this one started again. Looking out for one another just makes sense and is one of the most effective and least costly ways to prevent crime.”

The next meeting of this BLOCK WATCH group is Tuesday, September 24, 2002 and is open to all residents. If you are interested in forming a BLOCK WATCH in your “neck” of North Avondale, Marilyn Smith is happy to share their progress and organizational methods. Contact Marilyn by e-mail at mpsmith@one.net.

**EDGEHILL SUBDIVISION: TEN NEW HOMES ARE PROPOSED BY BASSETT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AT THE END OF EDGE HILL PLACE.
TO LEARN MORE, COME TO THE SEPTEMBER 10 NANA MEETING .**



NANA has hired youth to pick up litter, thanks to a Merit Grant from Invest In Neighborhoods’. NANA was awarded \$500 to combine with NANA’s \$1,000 to go towards NANA’s Litter Control Project. The group has cleaned Reading Road, Dana, Clinton Springs, Mitchell, parts of Washington, Burton, Greenwood, the Crescents and will continue throughout the fall. Unfortunately, sections in our neighborhood fill up with litter almost daily. Hopefully, as we understand the patterns of littering, we can find solutions.



**North Avondale Community Center
961-1584**

Call the center for more details or any questions concerning the Fall 2002 Programs

Fall 2002 Program Schedule

<u>Program name</u>	<u>Days of the week</u>	<u>Times offered</u>	<u>Cost involved</u>
SENIORS			
Yoga	M, W & Th	9 am - 10:30 am	Membership
Ceramics	T	9 am - 12 pm	\$20/quarter
Club Meetings	Last F	10 am - 12:30 pm	\$6/year
Computers	M - F	10:30 am - 12:30 pm	Membership
Fitness & Walking	M - F	11:45 am - 12:30 pm	Membership
Field Trips	Varies	Varies	Varies
AFTER SCHOOL			
Custodial Care Program	M - F	1:45 pm - 5:45 pm	Fee based
Drop-In Program	M - F	1:45 pm - 4 pm SHARP!	Membership
EVENING			
Karate	T & Th	5 pm - 7:45 pm	Fee based
Open Gym	M, W & F	7 pm - 9 pm	Membership
Stridettes Drill Team	M, W & Th	6 pm - 8 pm	Membership
Teen Lounge	M - F	6 pm - 9 pm	Membership
Fitness Center	M - F	6 pm - 9 pm	\$20/6 months
Sauna	M - F	6 pm - 9 pm	Membership
Workout Party 2002	T & Th	5:45 pm - 7:30 pm	\$3/class or \$20/mth
Workout Party 2002	Sa	12 pm - 1:45 pm	\$3/class or \$20/mth
Volleyball Leagues	T & Th	7:45 pm - 10 pm	Athletics
Morris Dancers	T	7:45 pm - 9 pm	Membership
NANA meetings	2nd T	7:30 - 9:30 pm	



**North Avondale Montessori School
872-7290**

9/24
Open House
7:00-8:00
9/27
Spirit Day
Kids-Night-In
6:30-10:30

NANA CALENDAR

- Tuesday, September 10, 7:30 p.m. **NANA GENERAL MEETING**, 617 Clinton Springs
- Saturday, September 14, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. **NORTH AVONDALE RECYCLING: MIXED PAPER**
- Tuesday, September 24, 7:30 p.m. **Rose Hill Area Block Watch Meeting** 3986 Rose Hill (see article Page 3)
- Saturday, October 5, 9:00 a.m. to Noon **Surry Square**, Btw. Huber Lumber & Thriftway **RECYCLING: Mixed Paper**



Current Resident Or:

NON-PROFIT
U S POSTAGE
PAID
CINCINNATI,
OHIO
PERMIT
NO. 7243

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

Beautification: Ursula Hassel	961-4717	President: Jim Obergefell	961-4717
City Liaison: Gerry Kraus	861-3939	1 st VP: John Jones	281-2596
Environmental: Mike Rieck	961-6563	2 nd VP: Eva Roberson	751-2446
Landlord/Tenant Relations: Pauline Daly	751-8334	3 rd VP: Michael Walton	961-8850
Legal Chatperson: Marvin Kraus	861-3939	Corresponding Sec: Barbara Henshaw	961-5275
Sustaining Cincinnati: Teresa Harten	751-5897	Recording Secretary: Marilyn Smith	221-4039
Welcome: Judith Ticheener	281-1107	Treasurer: Christopher Smitheman	281-5076
XU Liaison: John Delaney	248-4688	NANA Coordinator & NANA News Editor: Charlene Morse	221-6166

NANA EXECUTIVE BOARD & COMMITTEE CHAIRS