



NANA NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2006

Published by :The North Avondale
Neighborhood Association
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Volume XXXXVI, No.1
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Whenever we suffer a loss of a friend, neighbor or loved one, it has the tendency to bring people together. Monday night August 28th was no exception as hundreds of cars lined the streets around Reading and Clinton Springs, Beechwood and Rose Hill Avenues for a candlelight vigil outside the home of Phil and Melanie Bates. Our many thoughts and prayers go out to the Bates family as they mourn the loss of Mr. Philip Bates who was fatally shot in front of his home after midnight on Sunday morning, August 27th.

What can we do to help curb the violence in our city? Start, with continued partnering with the police department and supplying them with all of the information we can when making a call for police service. Join with long standing programs that NANA is involved in:

- The monthly **District Four Resource meetings** (4th Wednesday of each month at 6:30 at District Four)
- **CPOP** (Community Problem Oriented Policing) when we meet it is on the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. (call the NANA Office to make sure we are meeting that month)
- **Quality of Life Taskforce** In July, NANA was asked by an E-business expert with lots of experience in fighting dead-beat rental property owners in his Westwood community, to take part in a pilot program. It will assist us in targeting the "hot spots" by integrating police and other criminal data to give us more leverage when going after property owners and criminals alike. As some of the first statistics come in from this program over the following weeks, we are hopeful that it will help us put the squeeze on the criminal factor.
- **Citizens on Patrol** As Marilyn notes in her article, one of the most proven methods to keep the criminals from owning the street is for neighbors to band together as Citizens on Patrol. This helps to make the neighborhood more active outdoors and makes our streets less attractive to the criminals.
- Join or form your neighborhood **Block Watch Groups** (east of Reading Rd. is forming one. Contact Julie Zimmerman at 751-3199).
- We are exploring other options:
 - An initiative to improve lighting at every home and throughout the neighborhood.
 - Hiring a private security company.
 - Talking to City Council Members about adding more patrols in the neighborhood

Most Importantly - Come to the NANA GENERAL MEETING on Tuesday, September 12 at 7:30 p.m., North Avondale Recreation Center, 617 Clinton Springs
Topic: Safety Initiatives and Solutions

Tim Yosmali

GATHERING STRENGTH

By Marilyn Smith

A police sergeant at the scene said, "They heard somebody screaming for help. The voice started to fade and said, anyone?..."

Out of shock and unfathomable disbelief friends and neighbors are drawn to the beautiful green tiled home of Phil & Melanie Bates. As a community, we stand – in grief stricken silence to mourn the loss of a neighbor and a friend. We look to each other through painful eyes, searching for solutions to problems we cannot comprehend. The cold reality hits home as we understand that our future safety hinges on our willingness to stand together.

First there was disbelief as ugly yellow tape was stretched around the yard, with black letters screaming CRIME SCENE to all who would look. Then rage, desperately demanding the tyrant or tyrants are brought down. Where is our protection? Who's going to fix this? The responses came in spurts of frustration

- Let's hire our own private security to drive around!
- Push city council to put more police patrols on our street!
- Maybe we should arm ourselves, so we'll be ready!
- Build a bigger jail to put the thugs in!

There are no "easy" buttons. North Avondale is our home and the thugs know we are "easy" buttons for them to push around. We must start walking our streets in groups of three or more. The Cincinnati Police can train us, give us police radios when we walk, and provide back up squad cars within 30 seconds. Most crime takes place in the daytime – houses are robbed then. If we are visibly patrolling our streets at random times – those wannabe thieves and murderers learn that there are watchful eyes.

Come, walk with me. I walk every week as a trained volunteer for Citizens on Patrol I'm not a vigilante, and I'm not a thrill seeker either. I am one little old lady who understands that my watchful presence, is important to the safety of my neighborhood.

We are all horrified by the senseless slaughter of Mr. Bates As individuals; we are sickened by a prevailing sense of helplessness and frustration. As neighbors, walking side by side as a Citizen on Patrol; we proactively keep the silent vigil alive.

BASIC TRAINING FOR CITIZENS ON PATROL

Three Classes Thursday 9/21, 9/28, 10/12/06 at 5:30 pm

Where: Police Academy 800 Evans St. Rm B

APPLICATION DUE:9-5-2006 For Application Call or email: Officer: Terri Windeler, Citizens on Patrol Coordinator Cincinnati Police 352-3533, Terri.windeler@cincinnati-oh.gov



Free Tree From Fall ReLeaf 2006 Request Form



Community: _____
 Planting Location: _____

 Contact Person: _____
 Address: _____
 Zip: _____
 Phone #:(work) _____
 (home) _____
 Email _____
 Name(s) of Person(s) Planting Trees: _____

FREE TREE REQUEST

Please describe the planting site below. Attach any plans or maps that provide specific planting locations. Urban Forestry staff will inspect all planting sites before approving tree requests, and will inspect afterward to ensure that the trees are planted in accordance to guidelines.

NOTE: Trees must be planted within 30 ft of the sidewalk and visible from the street.

Depending upon demand Urban Forestry may limit number of trees to one per site or substitute species.

TREE SIZE	SPECIES	REQUEST
Small: 10 to 20 feet	Sweetbay Magnolia	
Medium: 25 by 15 ft.	Brandywine Maple	
Large: 75 to 90 ft by 35 to 50 ft.	Tulip Poplar	
Large: 60 to 75 by 40 to 60 ft.	Northern Red Oak	
Evergreen: 30 to 40 ft. by 10 to 20 ft.	Colorado Blue Spruce	

Planting Site Description: (**Please attach map)

Please return this form by September 22, 2006

To: Fall RELEAF • 3215 Reading Road • Cincinnati, OH 45229

• Fax: 861-8669

• Email: urban.forestry@cincinnati-oh.gov

For pictures of the trees, email: clmorse@fuse.net



THE NEW SCHOOL • 281-7999 •
3 Burton Woods Lane

This summer, for the third year, students and faculty from The New School participated in a Montessori cultural exchange in Japan. North Avondale residents, Nabil Wadih and Nathan Lamba were two of The New School students who visited the Montessori International School in Yokkai, Japan, run by Cincinnati resident, Miyoko Wordell.

This fall, The New School welcomes new and returning students and families for the 2006-07 school year and looks forward to the traditional Harvest Moon Celebration, always an enjoyable time for families, on September 30.

Families and staff of The New School extend their sincere sympathy to the Bates family, Melanie, Emma, Jonathan and Griffin on the loss of their husband and father, Philip. Philip Bates touched many people and his absence will be felt in many Cincinnati circles including The New School family.

IN MEMORIAM AND CONDOLENCES

Robert Payne (North Crescent) 78, passed away July 1st. Loving husband of Cynthia, cherished father of eight and adored grandfather to many. Known as "Coach Payne" for over 40 years and managed numerous Knothole baseball and softball teams for Cincinnati's at-risk youth. He coached the North Avondale Lions baseball team which was the first predominately black team to win the national Little League World Series title.

Wilbur David Jones (Ardmore Av) a leader in the Democratic Party, a civil rights activist in Cincinnati since the 1930s and former treasurer and executive member of the Cincinnati Branch of the NAACP, died July 28 at the age of 88.

Dinika Latrece Thomas, daughter of Cecil Thomas (Pam) (Clinton Springs) and the late Deborah Chancellor, and sister of Chico and Celeste Thomas, Damon Chancellor passed away suddenly on August 7 at age 32.

Sandra Prince (Burton Woods Lane formerly Lenox) age 54 passed away suddenly on August 8th. Former owner of Textra Hair Salon and avid volunteer.

Margaret Dukes sister of Ursula Hassel (Dakota) and Aunt of John & Patty Hassel (Rose Hill) passed away Monday, August 14th.

Philip M Bates (Rose Hill) was tragically died Sunday, August 27, at age 55. Our condolences are extended to Melanie, Emma, Jonathan and Griffin and his many friends. Memorials may be made to the Philip M. Bates Memorial Scholarship, Walnut Hills High School Alumni Foundation, 3250 Victory Parkway, 42507.

POLICE CONTACT NUMBERS

- 1) **EMERGENCY** 24 hour number for life-threatening situations: **911**
- 2) **NONEMERGENCY** 24 hour number for suspicious activity: **765-1212**
- 3) **DISTRICT 4** Police station 24 hour number: **352-3576**
- 4) **"Street corner"** program 9:00-5:00: **352-3715**
(undercover operations for surveillance of drugs, liquor, prostitution, and pornography)

CPS IGNORES ACADEMICS IN CLOSING BURTON A SCHOOL OF CHOICE

By Pauline Daly

CPS administration has recommended that Burton School, North Avondale's neighborhood school, be closed due to the decreased enrollment throughout CPS.

The school ratings just out are: Burton School - Continuous Improvement and both South Avondale and Rockdale - Academic Emergency. **They propose to close our neighborhood school which is showing academic achievement and send the students to a school that has been in Academic Emergency for 5 years.** Clearly at South Avondale the efforts being made to help the students successfully learn/achieve are not working.

Burton has been identified as a School of Choice. Parents whose children are assigned to failing schools can send their children to Burton. Yet if the proposed closing of Burton succeeds our neighborhood children will be sent to a failing school!

If Burton is closed the staff that achieved this success will be lost to the children in this area. **We are proposing that CPS build both Burton and South Avondale Schools for 450 students, thus cutting 200 seats. Then the team formed to promote cooperation between Burton, Rockdale, South Avondale and North Avondale Schools would focus on improving academic performance in all schools.**

Let CPS know your opinion about this. CPS Customer Help Center - 363-0123 Superintendent Rosa Blackwell, Board Members - Susan Cranley, Eileen Cooper Reed, Melanie Bates, John Gilligan, Catherine Ingram, Florence Newell, Rick Williams at P.O. Box 5381, Cincinnati, OH 45201-5381.

NEIGHBORS

Petra van Nuis daughter of Rosalie van Nuis (Burton Woods Ln) just released her second CD; this one is with pianist Bradley Williams (who was in Woody Herman's band). It's called *Revenge of the Kissing Bug*. Selections can be found on Petra's website: <http://www.petrasings.com>

The Belvedere is turning 80! Wild Oats and the Belvedere are partnering up for a Pre-Party! ●5 Courses at 5 ● September 30th, beginning at 5pm ● The Roof Garden @ The Belvedere We will be hosting a 5 course dinner and 5 course wine accompaniment. On the Menu:: *Appetizer: Crostini of Eggplant Caviar w/ Tomato Concasse ● Salad- Spring Salad w/ Edible Flowers & Maple Walnut Vinaigrette ● Whole Salmon Stuffed w/ Fennel Watercress Garlic Red Onion ● Side dish- Organic Harvest Squash Risotto ● Desert- Pomegranate Poached Pears.* The cost of the evening is \$50.00 per person or \$75.00 a couple. The space is limited to 50 people and you need to reserve your spots by calling 531-8015 or 981-0794 and talk to Rachel.

On **September 8th**, Pierre Mason of West Chester is opening at **3915 Reading Road "The Closet," Men & Women's Fashions, Shoes & Accessories.** Hours will be Monday - Saturday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Parking available behind the Karate studio.

In & Out Mini Mart at 3917 Reading Road Groceries, Snacks & Cigarettes. Already Open Daily 12 to 12.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The graffiti defacing our house since October was removed, as of early July. We removed it ourselves, with help of a power washer from Louis Ginocchi. A number of residents on our end of Marion had offered to help, which we much appreciated. The initial delay was because paint remover will not work during the winter - it must be 65°F or warmer for it to be effective. There is also the problem that when a power washer is used, water can impregnate the limestone and during a cold spell could freeze and cause the stone to spall.

A further delay occurred because in February (as in Winter) some in the neighborhood complained to Channel 5, who came out and did a number on us. All of this resulted in the City of Cincinnati graffiti squad being called in to remove the offending messages - the city had denied the existence of this service when we had tried earlier to get them involved. I signed the necessary release forms (on February 7). They too said we would have to wait until warmer weather before work could begin. After three months of waiting and numerous phone calls and other messages, we finally heard from the city that they could not do the removal after all. They did not want to take responsibility for any careless and negligent actions of their crews, and we could not accept that situation. So, finally, at the end of June, I began the removal that I would have started earlier had the city had not been called in. Thus, the 8+ month delay was due half to the weather, and half to the involvement of the city as a result of the Channel 5 broadcast.

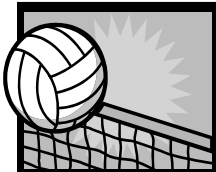
This was not random graffiti but hate messages for my wife and I: We were hurt the most by **V 4 RESTORATION** (we are trying to bring our house back to what it looked like before Xavier turned it into a dorm, a preservation activity which the perpetrator seems to find distasteful). The last word is certainly much beyond the vocabulary accomplishments of most graffiti artists and is what confirms that the defacement was not random, but directed specifically at us.

And what was the purpose of the last hate message? Was it directed at me or was it to inflame the neighborhood? Whatever the reason it certainly worked at redirecting the anger to focus on one word among the graffiti. That the very act of effacing our house was a hate crime perpetrated by someone in the neighborhood did not seem to bother most individuals at all.

The perpetrator's audience responded by getting mad at us - not at him. Why no one showed any interest in condemning the perpetrator or in finding out who he was is beyond us.

In conclusion, we think when our neighborhood suffers from defacement, or drug trafficking, or robberies, it is because (a) the city's law enforcement department has been hamstrung too long by politicians who chose political goals over neighborhood safety, (b) the lack of a "tough on crime" attitude in city government and (c) hypocrisy regarding law breaking.

If the monetary value of our homes is in fact of concern to us, then it would seem obvious that the above basic issues need to be taken care of first. But it seems some people have other agendas. Sincerely, Larry & JoJean Southwick



**NORTH
AVONDALE
961-1584**

Recreation Staff Changes

Gene Caldwell has retired from the City of Cincinnati Recreation Commission. He was the Service Area Coordinator for the Avondale Area including both Hirsch Center and North Avondale Center. Julie Fatora, Recreation Program Coordinator who has been at the North Avondale Center for the last two years will remain at North Avondale and is the acting Service Area Coordinator. Marlene Trapp Recreation Program Coordinator will be at the Hirsch Center. Ann James has moved from N. Avondale Center to Hirsch Center and Lauri Aultman joins the North Avondale Center staff. Karen Milford remains at Hirsch Center and Brandi Sanders remains at North Avondale

North Avondale Center Fall Information: Center closed: 9/4; 11/10; 11/23-24; 12/25

Elementary: After School Day Camp M-F 2:15 -6 pm \$120 /month ▪ Bridge Gap Program M-F 2:15-4:30 pm \$75 / month ▪ Drop In M-F 3 – 4:30 ▪ Basketball sign up in October; Practice schedules to be announced ▪ Flag Football (12 and under) Practice Mon. 3-4:30pm, Games on Tuesday after school ▪ Karate (Terrell Davis's Seven Star Dragon) T & Th 5-6 pm & 6-7:30 (Instr. Fee \$28/mon.) (Karate info call Terrell Davis 821-1724) ▪Movie Day, Fri. 3-4:30 Free **Teens:** Flag Football (14 and under) Practice Mon. 4:30-6pm, Games on Wednesday after school ▪ Karate (Terrell Davis's Seven Star Dragon) T & Th 5-6 pm & 6-7:30 (Instr. Fee \$28/mon.) (Karate info call Terrell Davis 821-1724) ▪ Open Basketball MWF 6:30 -8:30, also closed on: 9/15 & 10/20 ▪Open Teen Lounge or Game Room M-F 6 – 8 ▪Teen Club Thursdays and Fridays scheduled activities to be announced. **Adults and Seniors:** Aerobics (Jeff Shelby's Work Out Party) T & Th 5:45 – 7:30pm ▪ Karate (Terrell Davis's Seven Star Dragon) T & Th 6-7:30 pm ▪Line Dancing (Seniors) MW 10-11:30am ▪Yoga TBA▪ Tai Chi Thursday 6pm ▪Volleyball League (Tri-State Volunteers)

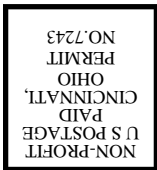
▪ AGAPE Church Group meets Sundays at 11am.

NANA EXECUTIVE BOARD, COMMITTEE CHAIRS & IMPORTANT CITY NUMBERS

President: Tim Yosmali _____	641-1244	Landlord/Tenant Relations: Pauline Daly _____	751-8334
1 st VP: Sulayman Bajo _____	290-8781	Legal Chairperson: Marvin Kraus _____	861-3939
2 nd VP: Deborah Elkins-Brown _____	861-4108	Master Plan: Bob Novak _____	751-2161
3 rd VP: Heather Herr _____	861-8180	Neighborhood Issues: John Jones _____	281-2596
Corresponding Sec.: Elaine Foster _____	751-8152	Quality of Life Issues: Marilyn Smith _____	221-4039
Recording Secretary: Michelle Baxter _____	475-0441	NANA Administrator & NANA News Editor: Charlene Morse _____	221-6166
Treasurer: Patricia Hassel _____	751-3357	City Complaint/Request Hotline _____	591-6000
Beautification: Ursula Hassel _____	751-4546	Police District 4 _____	352-3576
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 -
NANA MEETING SEPTEMBER 12TH
PAY YOUR 2006 NANA DUES

Current Resident Or:



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

Still Cincinnati's best address with: Beautiful Homes, Great Neighbors & Civic Passion

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, September 12, 7:30 p.m. NANA GENERAL MEETING, 617 Clinton Springs, New voting Machine Demonstration
- Tuesday, October 10, 7:30 p.m. NANA GENERAL MEETING, 617 Clinton Springs