

CentralNorthsideNews

"Hand-delivered since 1970"



June 2008

CENTRAL NORTHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

1310 Arch St. Pittsburgh, PA 15212 Phone: 412-231-7742 Fax: 412-322-3386 www.centralnorthside.com

Mission: The Central Northside Neighborhood Council is dedicated to sustaining a diverse community, enhancing the lives for all residents and ensuring a sense of community cohesiveness by developing affordable housing, advocating for our neighbor's needs, promoting quality of life

Vision: The vision of the Central Northside Neighborhood Council is to create a safe, clean, affordable, and engaged community.

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Greg Spicer (Vice-President)

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Staff

Michael Barber Executive Director mbarber@centralnorthside.com

Aaron Churchill Community Organizer achurchill@centralnorthside. com

Morgan Ress Community Planning Initiatives Coordinator morgan@centralnorthside.com

CNNC General Membership Meeting Monday, June 9th at 7pm West Park Court (corner of Brighton and North) Agenda

- (1) Presentation of Board Emeritus—Celebrate Mr. William Murchison's 30 plus years of Board service
- (2) Allegheny General Hospital Agreement— Northside Partnership Agreement
- (3) Formation of CNNC Community Safety Committee
- (4) Committee Reports—Hear from the Federal/ North, Community Planning Initiatives, Litter & Beautification, Bridges, Membership

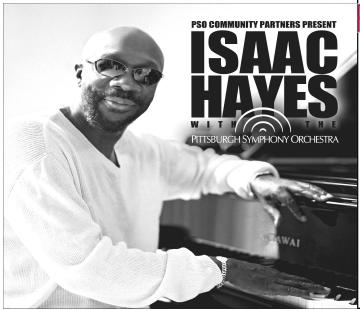
Message from the President

Greetings Neighbors!

Here we are at the beginning of June and the signs that summer are upon us are all around. The sun is shining, the birds are chirping and all around us our gardens are in bloom. Many people are converging upon the park, some with their pets and kids in tow. Stoops are no longer merely entrances to our homes but gathering places for friends and

Thank You to Our Newsletter Print Sponsors!
Allegheny General Hospital
For the month of May—New Image Press

...announcements...announcements...anno



PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The CNNC is pleased to announce its partnership with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. The PSO will perform in the 5th Annual Community Partners Concern on **June 26, 2008**, **8pm @ Heinz Hall**. Special guest will be recording artist, Isaac Hayes. Tickets are currently on sale at www.pittsburghsymphony.org or 1-800-743-8560 and ticket prices range from \$21.50 - \$112.50.

Simply enter promotional code **6646** to ensure that the CNNC receives the proceeds of your ticket. Questions? Contact CNNC: 231-7742. Proceeds will help fund the community planning process.

William Murchison to be honored as Board Emeritus

At the June 9th General Membership meeting, the CNNC will honor Mr. William Murchison's nearly forty years of service to this community by designating him Board Emeritus. Mr. Murchison was a founding CNNC Board member, and has played key roles in the CNNC's most significant projects, including West Park Court, Arch Court and MLK School.

Mr. Murchison first became drawn to community service as block clubs cropped up in the neighborhood during the late 1960's, which a short time later became the impetus for the CNNC's founding. He and the other founders quickly went to work by renovating and selling two houses to low-income residents on Alpine St.

Over the years, Mr. Murchison has served as president of the Board and on an array of committees. When asked what has been the most fun part of being part of the Council, he notes his love for organizing family friendly events such as the Halloween Festival and Summer Street Party.

In spite of his newly earned title, Mr. Murchison still plans on being involved in the Council, and his voice will undoubtedly continue to carry weight. Perhaps the most simple but poignant piece of wisdom he imparts is that residents practice *respect*: "[what makes a good community] is respect. When you respect people, they'll respect you back."

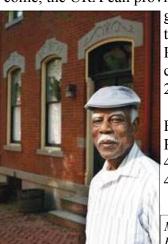
HURRY—Federal Hill Homes For Sale!

CNNC and S & A Homes are pleased to report that the strong pre-sales of the 23-home first phase will be fol-

lowed by the start of construction within a month. Five homes are already under contract and four have a hold deposit, so make sure to <u>inquire soon!</u>



Town home prices range from approximately \$130,000 to \$230,000 for homes from 1,430 to 2,350 square feet, including two off-street parking spaces. All have 3 bedrooms and from 1.5 to 3.5 bathes. For qualified buyers with incomes below 80% of area median income, the URA can provide deferred second mort-



gages up to \$55,000 to reduce the cost below \$100,000. Homes are expected to be completed by the end of 2008.

For information, call either Robert Iseman at 724-333-4349 or Michael Barber at 412-231-7742.

Mr. Murchison: Courtesy of Heather Mull, City Paper

Come out for

"SUMMER PEACE"



The Annual Summer Street Party Sunday July 20 4 - 8 p.m.





1300 Block of Arch Street Bring a Side Dish or Dessert Food Tickets-50 cents or 3/\$1

Hot Dogs & Hamburgers Fruit, Chips, Pop Little Hugs, Water



D.J. Live and on Stage Local Home Grown Talent

Inps, ...e Hugs, W **DESSERT CONTEST Bring your best** Homemade dessert. enter the contest and win a prize!



CNNC Dessert Contest

Imagine there are no calories, Its easy if you try. No portions size to guide us, Only made with pride.

Imagine all the people, Lined up with desserts You may say I'm a dreamer, But I hope I'm not the only one.

So Sunday July 20th come join us, and this neighborhood could eat as one. We need your help; please get involved today. Just email your entry to Willie Dawson at wfdjr65@verzon.net or call 412-322-5980 or fill out the form below. Peace—Willie D with help from Johnny L. Categories: Cakes, Pies and Cobblers, Jellos and Puddings, Cookies and Bars, Others?

DESSERT CO	ONTEST ENTRY FORM
Name:	Address:
Phone #:	Email:
Dessert Category:	Dessert Name: C Office, Arch Court, 1310 Arch Street

CNNC Youth Interns Up and Running

SQL query, GIS mapping, vacant house, tax lien, parcel ID. These words are not in the lexicon of a typical Northside teenager. Yet in a short two months, four of our neighborhood's youth, ages 14-18—Marleenia Harp, Cornell and Nadia Samuels, and Tanisha White—have been immersed in the world of urban planning and GIS mapping.

Although the world of computers is not completely obscure to these teenagers—Tinesha and Cornell are MySpace adherents—putting their computer savvy to productive use is a different task. Under the guidance of CNNC staff member Morgan Ress, the interns have gained technical training in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), a computer-based data management and mapping program. Typically, GIS is only taught in university-level courses.

Even with only a couple months under their belt, the interns are taking pride in their work. For example, when discussing the Pittsburgh Port Authority's maps, the interns all commented that they could "make better maps than them." So far the interns have mapped the location of CNNC members, rental properties, and bus routes. This summer, the interns will continue to produce work that will be an integral part of the CNNC's community planning process.

The experience, however, is more than just sitting in front of a computer screen. For example, the interns attend committee meetings and conduct field work; in turn, they have come to a greater appreciation of the community and the residents. Having attended several community meetings, Nadia notes how her perception of her community has changed: "people want to get involved in their community; before I came here, I didn't think people cared about their community."

OPEN HOUSE June 19th, 6-8pm at Arch Court Refreshments Served

Learn about the GIS program and meet Cornell, Marleenia, Nadia, and Tanishia at 1310 Arch St. For more information call Morgan at 412.231.7742.



Our GIS Interns (Left to Right): Marleenia Harp, Cornell Samuels, Morgan Ress (CNNC Staff), Nadia Samuels, Tinesha White

<u>Central Northside Neighbor of the Year:</u> <u>Audrey Woods</u>

Enter Arch Court, a senior-citizens apartment build-

ing, and you will find a warm, cozy environment. As manager of Arch Court, Audrey deserves the credit for creating a place where residents, families, and friends want to spend time together. Through various partnerships with local businesses and organizations, she has established a vegetable garden, conducted healthy cooking classes, invited students from MLK



School to celebrate holidays, and redecorated the public space to enhance social engagement.

In addition, she endeavors enthusiastically to connect the residents of Arch Court to the community through membership and participation in the CNNC. A true partner with CNNC, she accommodates the CNNC's office presence and meetings at Arch Court with patience and flexibility.

Audrey was honored at the Northside Leadership Conference's Annual Scholarship and Awards dinner on May 22nd. When asked about the honor, Audrey replied with typical humility, "I was surprised, but I'm also honored." Thank you, Audrey for all the work you do—indeed, it's our honor to have you serve our community.

Upcoming Events

- June 3 Federal North Committee, 6pm at Arch Court
- June 4 Community Planning Initiative Committee, 6pm at Arch Court
- June 4 Membership Committee, 6:30pm at Arch Court
- June 5 Northside Public Safety Council, 5:30pm at Northside Leadership Conf.
- June 7 Neighborhood Clean-Up Day, 10am at Mechanic's Retreat Park
- June 9 General Membership Meeting, 7pm at West Park Court
- June 11 Jefferson Recreation Center Committee, 6pm at Arch Court
- June 12 Safe Streets, 7pm at Arch Court
- June 13 Beleza Art Opening Potluck, 6:30pm at Beleza
- June 15 Family and Community Day, 12-5pm at Mattress Factory
- June 16 AGH Reinvestment Committee, 5pm at AGH
- June 17 Mexican War Streets Society, 7 at Allegheny Commons Unitarian Church
- June 19 CNNC Open House—GIS Internship Program, 6-8pm at Arch Court
- June 19 Litter and Beautification Committee, 6:30pm at Arch Court
- June 21 Summer Street Party Committee, 12:30pm at 411 Jacksonia
- June 26 Pittsburgh Symphony, Community Partners Concert, 8pm at Heinz Hall Fridays Citiparks Farmers' Market, 3:30-7:30 at East Park, Allegheny Commons

Message from the President (cont'd from page 1)

Just as spring has brought new life to our neighborhood, we are beginning our new fiscal year at the CNNC re-energized. We have many exciting plans currently underway and many more to come in the near future. Our committees are working hard to turn these plans into reality. In future newsletters I will use this column to update the membership on the intriguing projects of the Council.

It's appropriate to dedicate this month's column to a subject that I'm sure is on many of your minds: May's election and the new CNNC Board of Directors. It is striking how many people expressed their feelings by casting a vote—199 of our neighbors did so. No doubt, many Community-Based Organizations in Pittsburgh (or anywhere, for that matter) would give anything for that kind of participation from their members. This is yet another sign that our neighborhood is a dynamic place to live!

Now that the election is over, it is time to focus on what it is that we all have in common—the love of our neighborhood and the desire to see it become the best neighborhood possible. Because we will, no doubt, have disagreements over particular courses of action, one of my top priorities as Board President is to ensure all of the members of our organization are treated respectfully and that they are given an opportunity to be heard. I will also strive to build consensus on the issues before the board in a way that demonstrates that what we have in common is so much greater than any of our differences.

Above all, I will work hard to ensure that the CNNC Board represents the diversity of interests and opinions here in the Central Northside. After all, this neighborhood is home to all of us and—regardless of our circumstances, backgrounds or opinions—we should all feel at home here.

This new year brings much promise to the Central Northside. Please join us as we move forward, together.

Bill Buettin, CNNC President, Board of Directors



Central Northside Neighborhood Council

Membership Registration Form Dues Run From January 2008-December 2008

YES! I want to be involved. Enclosed is\$5\$3 (seniors) for my dues for 2008. If your organization/business would like to be a member, dues are\$25 (Include the name and contract information of delegate) Enclosed is an additional tax-deductible donation of \$20\$40\$60\$100Other am interested in participating in the following committees of CNNC: Youth Business District Development (Working on the Brighton Road and Federal Street business district revitalizationMembership
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Membership
(Working on outroach to the community, events, and various other programming
 (Working on outreach to the community, events, and various other programming Housing (Working to eliminate blighted housing, provide affordable housing options) Public Safety
(Working with Safe Streets)
have the following skills, talents or interests that I would like to put to use for o eighborhood:

CNNC Newsletter Is Available Electronically!

Pittsburgh, PA 15212

If you would like a newsletter delivered to you via email, please contact Aaron: achurchill@centralnorthside.com or 412.231.7742

Have you received your membership card? If you are a CNNC member and you have **not** received your membership card, please contact Aaron: achurchill@centralnorthside.com or 412.231.7742.