

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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mbarber@centralnorthside.com

Aaron Churchill
Community Organizer
achurchill@centralnorthside.com

Morgan Ress
Community Planning Initiatives
Coordinator
morgan@centralnorthside.com

CNNC General Membership Meeting

Monday, July 14, 7pm

Arch Court (1310 Arch St.)

Agenda

1. Summer Street Party (see pg. 3)—sign up to volunteer and to participate in the dessert contest
2. Community Safety Survey—take the survey, find out how to get involved in community safety
3. CNNC Website Redesign—provide comment, ask questions about new CNNC website (see pg. 4)
4. Communications Reform—discuss CNNC's plan to improve communication
5. Resignation of Board Member Chantal Blake and Special Election (see pg. 4)—nominate candidates and learn about process for electing replacement

President's Message

Greetings All:

The first full month of our new fiscal year has come and gone. I wrote in last month's newsletter that I would use this column in future editions to update our members on the exciting work of our committees. During the summer months kids are home from school, family vacations are planned and we all want to be outside with our friends and family. Even so, I'm thrilled to be able to report to you that our committees are enthusiastically volunteering their time and energy to many meaningful initiatives. I would need much more space than I have in this column to detail all of their endeavors, but I will hit some of the highlights.

On the development side, the Federal Hill project is back on track. The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) has committed to the financing. Both sides are putting together all the paperwork necessary to close the loan, which will happen by the end of the month (hopefully sooner). Sales activity is tremendous! We have sold 10 homes without a single shovel in the ground. Construction should only help our sales. The CNNC met with representatives from the Mayor's office, Department of Public (cont'd, pg. 5)

Where is Allegheny City?

Uncover the secret of a hidden city in the middle of Pittsburgh! Play the new Where is Allegheny City? Treasure Hunt this summer, with a special Kick-Off Extravaganza at the North Side Celebration in **West Park on Saturday, July 26.**

All you need to play is a cell phone, a Treasure Hunt map and lots of curiosity. You'll discover lots of treasures all around the Northside, ranging from celebrated trees to world-famous museums to historic buildings.

Play the Treasure Hunt by answering questions and solving puzzles right on your cell phone and earn points for every correct answer. Score enough points and you receive fun prizes – from free passes to Northside museums to cool games and toys. Come compete at the Celebration in the Park for the chance to win a treasure chest of Northside goodies – a gift pack of admissions passes, merchandise and gift certificates from a variety of Northside businesses.

For more information, please contact Jocelyn Horner at 412-586-6026 or jhorner@pittsburghkids.org.

Meet a CNNC Member

Walk through the Old Allegheny Community Gardens one day, and you might happen upon Carolyn McDuffie cultivating her plot of green paradise. Gardening has long been one of life's joys for Carolyn; from collard greens to tomatoes, her garden bustles with activity.

Similar to her garden, Carolyn, 94, also bustles with life. Moving from New Jersey to the Central Northside in 1979, she immediately got involved in her community. As a longtime CNNC member, her interest in gardening prompted the founding of the Old Allegheny Community Garden from vacant lots. In addition, Carolyn has always taken great delight in cooking steamed cabbage for the

CNNC Thanksgiving Dinner.



Carolyn is a retired nurse, and lives with her daughter Gwen on Arch St. The key, says Carolyn, to living a long, fulfilling life is to "Eat the right food and be positive." With a warm smile, a garden full of veggies, and 94 years to her name, there is no doubt that she practices what she preaches.

Calling All Walkers and Runners!

As a partner in the Northside Health Improvement Partnership, the CNNC is promoting the



Northside Stride program, which provides awards and incentives such as Giant Eagle gift cards and restaurant gift certificates to individuals who

keep track of their walking or running. Along with these tangible incentives and the individual health benefit of regular exercise, walking groups can also foster community

- Engaged citizens
- Recognition of community health
- Others will start walking in your neighborhood



benefits such as: So if you are already walking or running, or would like to begin a regular walking or running schedule, be sure to sign up! Contact Aaron: 412-231-772 or achurchill@centralnorthside.com for more information or to sign-up!

Southwestern PA Commission Visits CNNC

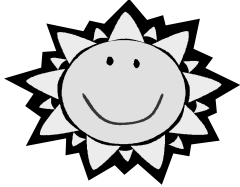
On Wednesday the 25th, The Community Planning Initiatives Committee hosted the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) for a presentation of their Transportation Improvement Program. Approximately a dozen community members attended the presentation and learned about transportation planning, about how infrastructure affects communities and development, and about the process that created the Transportation Improvement Plan. Key areas of concern and opportunities to comment that affect this community are: The inclusion of the Mon-Fayette Toll road, the North Shore Connector, and the 2011-2012 rehab of the 6th, 7th, and 9th Street Bridges. For more information, contact Morgan. Ress.

cityLIVE! To Host Transportation Forum

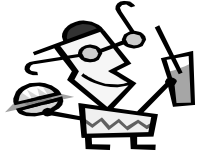
cityLIVE!, a free monthly series of engagingly educational events showcasing the creative and intellectual talent of the city, is hosting a forum on **July 24, 6:30 at The New Hazlett Theater** to discuss transportation solutions for our region. The slate of speakers includes Stephen Bland, CEO, Port Authority; PA State Representative Chelsea Wagner; and Sanjeev Shah, Principal and Regional Director, Lea + Elliott.

The event is sponsored by no wall productions, the Heinz Family Foundation and the New Hazlett Theater, and Pop City Media. For more information see www.popcitymedia.com/citylive/trans0623.aspx.

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



New This Year... CNNC Dessert Contest



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. Submit your entry now!

Prizes Include:

- Membership to the YMCA
- Membership to the Mattress Factory
- Tickets to the Andy Warhol Museum

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DESSERT CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone #: _____
 Email: _____

Dessert Category: _____
 Dessert Name: _____

Return entry form to CNNC Office, Arch Court, 1310 Arch St

Entertainment Youth Talent Show

For youth 5-18 years of age from the **NORTHSIDE**. \$\$\$\$\$ CASH and other **PRIZES** for the winners!

If you sing, rap (clean material please), dance, act or have any talent that you would like to share, **YOU HAVE TO REGISTER and AUDITION.**

OPEN AUDTITION TIMES

Thursday, July 10th at 4:00-5:00PM at the Jefferson Rec. Center located at 605 Redknap St. (off of Monterey or Buena Vista Street at the top of the hill)

Thursday, July 17th at 4:00-5:00PM at the YMCA located at 600 West North Ave.

*** You have to register and audition! Please call Ms. Sheila at 412-323-9069 or email sbeasle@pitt.edu with questions.**

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 followed by the start of construction within a month. Ten homes are already under contract.

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 mortgages up to \$55,000 to reduce the cost below \$80,000. Homes are expected to be completed by the end of 2008.

For information, call Robert Iseman at 724-333-4349.



GIS Intern Open House Report

On June 19th, the Community Planning Initiatives committee sponsored an open house for our GIS Intern Program. The interns are 14-18 years old and attend Pittsburgh Public Schools. Their names are Cornell and Nadia Samuels, Marleina Harp, and Taneisha White. Over the last three months, they have worked eight hours a week, learning GIS mapping. The open house showcased the work of the interns, and allowed community members the opportunity meet and talk with the interns, as well as see the GIS system that we are using. The experience was very positive for the interns; they all received positive feedback from community members that greatly boosted their confidence and affirmed that they are doing work that the community values and supports. Thank you to Joan Kimmel, Randi Marshak, and Randy Zotter for donating food and beverages, and to everyone who attended.



GIS Intern Cornell demonstrating his GIS skills to Joan Kimmel

Announcement of Board Vacancy: Special Election Called

The CNNC Board seeks a highly motivated and civic-minded individual to fill the board vacancy left by the departure of Chantal Blake. Ms. Blake is a valued board member and a former executive board member where, until recently, she served as the organization's secretary. She deserves our most sincere gratitude for her service to the CNNC and her input will be greatly missed.

Although the board makes no endorsements of particular candidates, we think it is important that the person elected adds to the board in terms of unique skills sets, life experiences or social/cultural identity. The current board varies somewhat by sex/gender, income level, age, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, religious identification or practice, educational attainment, political affiliation, home ownership and other factors representative of the diversity in our neighborhood. Even so, the loss of Ms. Blake exacerbates a lack of representation on the board by females and persons of African descent. Given the demographics of our neighborhood, the under-representation of African-Americans on the board concerns us greatly and we strongly encourage members to identify, nominate and help elect qualified neighbors who might help us fill this position in a way that benefits the board and the whole neighborhood.

A special election to fill the vacancy created by Chantal Blake's departure has been called for the September general membership meeting. Nominations will be taken from the floor beginning at the July general membership meeting. Nominations may also be taken from the floor at the September meeting and each candidate will have equal time at that meeting to speak to the membership before votes are cast. Keep in mind that our organization operates by Robert's Rules of Order, and, therefore, a member may not nominate her or himself or second her or his own nomination. If you have any questions regarding the special election, please call the CNNC office.

CNNC Website Relaunch

The Communication Committee is working on an updated website for the Central Northside Neighborhood Council! A draft version of the new site is online at www.cnnc-pgh.org. Please have a look, and send any feedback or comments to Morgan at morgan@centralnorthside.com. Additionally, committee members will present the new site at the July General Membership meeting to give more opportunities for feedback.

Upcoming Events

July 7	Northside Homeless Service Providers, 1:30pm, NS Common Ministries
July 9	Bridges Committee, 6:30pm, Arch Court
July 10	Safe Streets, 7pm, Arch Court
July 10	Federal/North Committee, 6pm, Arch Court
July 12	Summer Street Party Committee, 12:30pm, Arch Court
July 14	CNNC General Membership Meeting, 7pm, Arch Court
July 15	Mexican War Streets Society Meeting, 7pm, Unitarian Church
July 16	Community Planning Initiatives Committee, 7pm, Arch Court
July 17	Litter/Beautification Committee, 6:30pm, Arch Court
July 20	Summer Street Party, 4-8pm, Arch Street
July 24	cityLIVE! Regional Transportation Solutions, 6:30, New Hazlett Theater
July 26	Northside Celebration in the Park, 12-5pm, West Park
August 5	National Night Out, 7-9pm
	7-8pm: Neighborhood Walk, meet 6:45 at corner of Arch and North
	8-9pm: Children's Safety Activities and Party at Alpine Gardens
Farmers' Market	Every Friday, 3:30-7:30pm, East Park
Twilight Market	Every Saturday, 4-8pm, Corner of Buena Vista and Jacksonia

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Works and the URA regarding the median strips. We believe the safety and maintenance issues will be resolved this month. Many thanks to those who wrote letter of support for the medians---they helped tremendously!

At our Board meeting last week we approved the request for proposals for the community plan, which is a product of the Community Planning Initiatives committee. We will send out the RFP in the next couple of weeks with the hope of choosing the winning proposal in time for our September membership meeting. An important aspect of the community plan is creating a master plan for Federal North. Many of you read in the War Street Journal that Senator Ferlo has committed \$50,000 to our community planning effort. Along with a possible matching grant from the URA and \$16,000 already committed by the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh, we're ready to get started. Stay tuned for future announcements regarding the plan, because we'll need everyone's input to make this successful.

The Litter/Beautification committee is working on several important initiatives. First, they're hoping to take advantage of the City's "Green-Up" program to assist us in cleaning up some of the vacant lots in our neighborhood. They are also partnering with the Allegheny Commons committee (under the Northside Leadership Conference), our Federal North committee and Duquesne Light to improve the lighting in the park and to light up the facades on the Garden Theater block. Also alongside the Federal North committee they're looking into painting the plywood that covers many doors in this block with bright, vibrant colors, our version of former NYC Mayor Guiliani's broken window theory.

The newly formed Community Safety committee is getting started. Their first initiative is to distribute, tabulate and report on Commander Brackney's survey, which she will use to create a policing strategy for our community.

This committee is looking for volunteers to join the committee. If you're interested please contact its new chair, Chris D'Addario.

The Summer Street Party committee is in the final stages of planning the July 20th party. They still need volunteers for a variety of jobs during the party. A sign-up sheet will be passed around at our membership meeting next week. In June, the Bridges committee had a successful stoop party on Sherman. They are working on planning others as well. If you would like to host one on your street please let the committee know.

You can tell there is A LOT going on in our community. If you're like me, trying to understand who is doing what and when can be a daunting task. With this challenge in mind, the Board voted to form a Communication committee so our members know what is going on at the CNNC. This committee will deal with issues such as the website (newly revamped, by the way), our newsletter, community bulletin boards and the like. Their mission is to ensure all our members have an opportunity to know what's happening in their community and in their community-based organization and to give everyone a chance to get involved. This committee will not just focus on intra-organizational communication (i.e. communicating between members, committees and the Board) it will also focus on public relations so we can get the word out to the rest of the City about all the exciting things happening in the Central Northside.

Every one of these committees relies on the committed efforts of volunteers in our neighborhood. Without their focused energy none of the inspired initiatives currently underway would be possible. If something you read in this column sparked your interest or if you have other ideas for community initiatives please don't hesitate to reach out. As English playwright John Heywood once wrote "Many hands make light work." The CNNC is your organization and it can be what you make it.

Bill Buettin
President, CNNC Board of Directors



Central Northside Neighborhood Council

Membership Registration Form Dues Run From January 2008-December 2008

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (day): _____ Phone (eve): _____

Email: _____

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 _____ \$100 _____ Other _____

I am interested in participating in the following committees of CNNC:

_____ **Youth**

_____ **Business District Development**

(Working on the Brighton Road and Federal Street business district revitalization)

_____ **Membership**

(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)

I have the following skills, talents or interests that I would like to put to use for our neighborhood: _____

Send this form or drop it off at the CNNC office with your dues (Check or Cash) Make check payable to CNNC:

CNNC Membership
1310 Arch Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

CNNC Newsletter Is Available Electronically!

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

New to the Neighborhood?

The CNNC has a New Residents Packet full of information for people who are new to the neighborhood. Please contact Aaron: achurchill@centralnorthside.com or 412.231.7742 to obtain a packet.

July 1, 2008

Dear CNNC Neighbors,

The Neighborhood Needs Assessment is a tool that new Zone One Police Commander RaShall Brackney uses to prioritize and address problems specific to communities. The Central Northside Neighborhood Council and North Side Safe Streets are working together to disseminate the surveys and collect results.

Your willingness to fill out this survey, which will be viewed by Commander Brackney, is an important step in identifying and eliminating some of our most troublesome areas.

Please return this survey to:

**CNNC
1310 Arch Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15212**

It's important to return your completed survey no later than July 15th so results may be tallied and YOUR opinions and concerns will reach our police station in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

CNNC and North Side Safe Streets

**Neighborhood Pride Project
Needs Assessment Survey**

*add brief intro/instructions here – purpose, how/where to return
(email, drop off locations)*

Neighborhood: Central North Side

Date: _____

Address and/or block(s) where problem(s) are occurring:

Types of problem(s) occurring:

Abandoned Vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gang Activity	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vacant Houses	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shots Fired	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drugs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loitering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nuisance Bars	<input type="checkbox"/>	Over Grown Lots	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prostitution	<input type="checkbox"/>	Illegal Dumping	<input type="checkbox"/>
Loud Noise Complaints	<input type="checkbox"/>	Traffic Complaints	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Garbage Cans	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elderly Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Homelessness	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	

Please provide the following information when the problem(s) occur. Be very specific. Use additional sheets if necessary.

Date (s): _____

Time(s) of Day: _____

Days of Week: _____

How do you feel this problem(s) can be corrected? Please consider solutions other than "more police presence." Include community resources available to address concerns.\

Please describe in detail what type of assistance is needed from police, city, etc.:

The #1 safety issue in our neighborhood is: _____

About you:

Renter Homeowner Other

yrs. in neighborhood: _____

Member of block watch? Yes No

Member of CNNC? Yes No

Please return your completed survey by July 31, 2008.

Thank you for your participation.

Zone One Police
North Side Safe Streets
Central Northside Neighborhood Council