



# Morningside News - January 2008

*A Publication of the Morningside Area Community Council*

PO Box 40313, Pittsburgh, PA 15201 [www.macconline.org](http://www.macconline.org)

## From the M.A.C.C.

### *In With the New*

It never fails that January brings about exciting resolutions, new hope, and at least a few changes.

At the same time, the month is a fitting time for reflection, and sometimes longing. The hope is, of

course, that you find balance, but that overall the former outweighs the latter.

As a new M.A.C.C. president Dom Costa takes office this month, we welcome him, but we also offer a

heartfelt thank you to our outgoing president Matt Arena.

The M.A.C.C. is looking forward to the coming year, a year filled with the hope of exciting change. As always, we invite you to join us.✽

## President's Year End Report

December 31, 2007

Subject: Year End Report

Dear Residents of Morningside,

Merry Christmas and may you have a happy and prosperous New Year.

During the year 2007, MACC has experienced one of the most outstanding years in recent times. With the help and hard work of the Executive Board; Joe Kramer, Vice President, Corinne Antoszewski, Secretary, Mary Ann Merranko, Treasurer, Leslie Kass, Membership Chair, and Janeen LaForce, News Letter Editor, MACC started to establish the most productive and prosperous year in recent memory.

On Thursday, October 12, 2006, our friend and beloved President, Sam Mastromatteo, met his untimely and premature death due to a cardiac condition. We will always remember and miss Sam. Since I was vice president, I immediately assumed the duties of President.

My first challenge was the catastrophic fire that broke out on November 24,, 2006, leaving seven families homeless. These families were left with nothing. Most of them had little or no insurance. With the help of the MACC members, Morningside residents and all those in the surrounding Pittsburgh Neighborhoods, MACC was able to raise \$35,000 allowing us to give each family \$5,000. We further collected clothing and small kitchen appliances that were made available to the families.

We started the year 2007 by having a good relationship with the new mayor of Pittsburgh who assumed office due to the death of Mayor Bob O'Connor. Mayor Luke helped MACC at every facet that he could, starting with the November 24, 2006, Morningside Fire.

With the help of the MACC members, we were able to establish new committees and revise old ones. We established a fund raising committee, JoAnn Kline, Housing Committee, Grant Ervin, Youth & Special Events, Jo Ficorilli, Beautification, Amy Ervin, Public Safety, Corinne Antoszewski, Nominations, John Santore, and last but not least, the Planning and Development Committee, which I chair. I would like to thank all of the Officers and Members for their dedicated service to MACC and the residents of Morningside.

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## New Walking Program Announced

*Does winter weather prevent you from exercising?  
Do you gain weight in the winter due to a slowdown in activity?  
Do you have access to an exercise program that fits your level of physical fitness?*

What is the solution?

### The "IT'S SO EASY" INDOOR WALKING PROGRAM

*JOIN IN!*

Our community pilot program begins Saturday, January 5 from 9:00 a.m.-Noon.

Come for demonstrations of the program, prizes and refreshments.

St. Matthews Church  
5322 CARNEGIE STREET  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15201  
(in Lawrenceville)

Parking is free in the lot provided. Register and check for future locations in the Pittsburgh area online at [www.lifecyclesunlimited.org](http://www.lifecyclesunlimited.org) or call JoAnn at 412-654-5476.

Participants will not run or walk in circles, or use a treadmill, but instead will use a space of approx. 6' square per person

to perform aerobic exercise with five basic movements.

- Marching in Place
- Front, Back and Side Kicks
- Hand and Arm movements

This 12 week program will help you get and keep those pounds off and put you on a path towards improved physical fitness while encouraging a healthy lifestyle. In three weeks you CAN achieve a three-mile walk.

There is no need to worry about your present level of fitness or endurance as the program can be performed at a low, medium, or high energy level. You perform at your own comfort level and increase endurance steadily, at your own pace.

Beginners are always surprised when they have finished the first mile. Typical responses of "I can't believe I did it!" are common when the two or three mile programs are complete.

Even participants with limited mobility and flexibility have benefited from the program with improved balance and coordination in just a few sessions.

Lifecycles Unlimited, founded by JoAnn Kline, a Morningside resident for over 30 years, modeled the program after programs designed by Leslie Sansone.



Rich Hoff  
General Manager

**Eat'n Park**

930 Butler Street  
Etna, PA 15223  
T 412-486-1555  
[www.eatnpark.com](http://www.eatnpark.com)

*A member of the Eat'n Park Hospitality Group*

### Special Thanks

The M.A.C.C. sponsored the Morningside business district Christmas Tree on Chislett St, in front of Dr. Koch's office. Special thanks to the following people for their kind help: Nan Pischke, Mike Harris for donating the tree, Norm McDonald for the electricity, Dr. Joseph Koch for the property, and Bob Antoszewski for anchoring the tree so that it stayed put!

### Website Update

The M.A.C.C. website committee has been hard at work during the month of December. Several major back end technical changes have been completed, and the site is slated to launch on February 1st. Something to look forward to during the dreary winter months, no?

### Newsletter Volunteers Still Needed

Several of your neighbors have come forward, but we can still use your help with the *Morningside News*. Even if you're not up to delivering the newsletters, we could use some volunteers to help counting and folding the newsletters, and readying them for the block captains.



Buying or Selling

**Howard Hanna**

*"Go with the leader!"*

ROBERT J. CORTEZ  
Sales Associate

Proud to be a third generation Morningside resident

Shadyside Office  
Office: (412) 351-4000  
5501 Baum Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15232  
Email: [rcortez@howardhanna.com](mailto:rcortez@howardhanna.com)

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We have applied for and received, or are expecting to receive, five grants, which total in excess of \$50,000 for special projects. Most of this grant money is earmarked specifically for dedicated services. A study of the business district; the vacant Morningside School building and other needs of the Morningside Community. We have contracted for studies of the business district to determine what we can do to help entice more business to locate in Morningside and what upgrades can be performed to keep those that are already here to stay. We have initiated a study of the Morningside School Building and property to see what uses would best complement the Business District and Morningside as a whole.

Another of our accomplishments was to have video cameras installed at Heth and Natoli fields to hinder vandalism and other illegal acts. Councilman Bodack got us a grant and with the help of Representative Bennington and the City, we established specific hours of use in the parks so that the police are able to enforce hours of use. New signage has been installed at the fields showing the established hours.

These are just a few of the accomplishments that MACC has started or completed or are in progress of completing.

Our accomplishments are credited not only to me as President but all of the Officers, Committee Chairs, Committees Members and of course the support of all MACC Members. I wish to take this opportunity to thank them all personally.

I wish to further acknowledge our State Senator, Jim Ferlo, our State Representative, Lisa Bennington, Mayor Luke Ravenstahl, City Council Representative, Len Bodack and our School Board Director and future City Councilman Patrick Dowd. It was with their help that we were able to obtain our grants and much of the progress that MACC has experienced this year. MACC extends our thanks to them all.

At this Years End, I thank all the residents of Morningside for supporting the efforts of MACC. With your help, MACC will continue to have another Banner Year in 2008.

Best regards,

Matthew A. Arena  
President

**The January M.A.C.C . Meeting  
has been rescheduled for January 9, 2008  
7 p.m., Morningside VFW, Morningside Ave.**

**IT'S SO EASY!**  
*Health program*

St. Matthews Church  
5322 Carnegie Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201

Mon. 3:30-7:00 p.m.  
Wed. 3:30-7:00 p.m.  
Sat. 8:00-10:00 a.m.



**Three Day Pass**

- 1. 2. 3.

Sign up online at:  
[lifecyclesunlimited.org](http://lifecyclesunlimited.org)

\*\*\*  
Or Call us at :  
412-654-5476

Valid January-May, 2008

**MORNINGSIDE BASEBALL  
ASSOCIATION REGISTRATION**

Baseball registration is scheduled for January 23, 24, & 25 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the VFW Hall, 1820 Morningside Ave.

The fee is \$70.00 per player or \$85.00 for the family.

For more information please contact: Barb Lambert at (412) 363-7151 ([barb101444@hotmail.com](mailto:barb101444@hotmail.com)) or Dee Peluse {after 6PM} at (412) 661-3496 ([Dee520@comcast.net](mailto:Dee520@comcast.net)) or Don Sand at [dsand116@comcast.net](mailto:dsand116@comcast.net).

**Heth's Run Park Planing meeting:** January 29th at the Zoo Education Center from 6:00 to 8:00 At this meeting the design consultants will publicly present their plans for the Heths Run Park and redesign of the Zoo entrance and parking lot. This meeting was originally scheduled for December 10th.

## M.A.C.C. Membership Application

\$10 per family \_\_\_\_\_ \$5 singles \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to M.A.C.C.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check and application to Membership Chair:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Leslie Kass  
1706 Jancey Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### M.A.C.C. OFFICERS

#### *President*

Matt Arena, 412-414-6006  
matt.arena@verizon.net

#### *Vice-President*

Joe Kramer, 412-363-5845  
josephrkramer@yahoo.com

#### *Secretary & Public Safety*

Corinne Antoszewski, 412-441-8475  
corinatoz1234@aol.com

#### *Treasurer & Newsletter co-editor*

Mary Ann Merranko, 412-362-7407  
maryamerran@aol.com

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

#### *Beautification*

Amy Ervin: 412-362-0132

#### *Communication & Newsletter Editor*

Janeen LaForce: 412-287-0262  
janeen@santore.com

#### *Fundraising*

seat vacant

#### *Housing*

Grant Ervin: 412-362-0132  
macchousing@yahoo.com

#### *Membership*

Leslie Kass: 412-441-7978

#### *Nomination*

John Santore: 412-292-5356  
john@santore.com

#### *Planning and Development*

Matt Arena, 412-414-6006  
matt.arena@verizon.net

#### *Youth & Special Events*

Jo Ficorilli: 412-441-2979 &  
Kathleen Corcoran: 412-362-2529

## Morningside Market and Business District Design Study Underway

MACC recently hired local market research firm Jackson Clark Associates to conduct a market study of Morningside and surrounding communities. The purpose of the market study is to provide an improved understanding of shopping trends, resident needs and opportunities for the Morningside Business District.

The market study is the first step in a community design and planning process initiated by MACC's Community Development and Planning Committee. The Committee submitted an application to the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh's (CDCP) Design

Fund. The Design Fund, a grant program that provides architectural design and planning assistance to communities, selected Morningside's application and recommended the organization incorporate both a market and design study into the project. Financial support from CDCP and State Senator Jim Ferlo's office are allowing MACC to embark on a comprehensive analysis of the community's business district and take the first step in encouraging support for existing businesses while providing opportunities for new businesses.

The market study will conclude in

early March. Following completion of the market study, MACC will hire architects to incorporate the market study results and engage residents in a conversation about their vision for the district. Architects will then provide final recommendations to improve the design of the business district.

Keep your eyes open for future news on the project. We need your input.