



Summer Storm Hits M'side

On the sticky summer evening of July 17th, many local residents noticed something strange in the air. That might have been the air itself, blowing at upwards of 60 miles per hour according to the National Weather Service. Accompanied by fierce rains, the early evening thunderstorm caused significant damage throughout Morningside.

People who ventured out to survey the damage after the quick-hitting storm blew over noticed uprooted trees and downed wires, in addition to some areas of minor flooding. Thanks to the small-town feel of our community, neighbors offered to help each other with clean-up duties, and started within minutes of the storm's end.

According to the National Weather Service, the storm that hit our community was part of the same high-pressure system that had severely flooded Texas. Morningside, Stanton Heights and the North Side were the hardest hit neighborhoods in the City of Pittsburgh. Numbers are not broken down by neighborhood, but Pittsburgh received .42 inches of precipitation in about 30 minutes.

The best way to stay safe during severe weather is to be prepared. Remember to keep an emergency kit on hand containing at least the following items: flashlight, radio, extra batteries for both, and emergency telephone numbers.

From the M.A.C.C.

Please Pardon our Dust

In the coming months, you may notice some changes in both the newsletter and the website.

The first change you likely noticed was the absence of a July issue of the Morningside News. At the last minute, we decided to put out an abbreviated July/August issue (with limited availability and no ads) to keep you informed of some local issues. How-

ever, we are mostly focusing our energies on the website, which we hope to launch with the new school year. (And we're doing a little gardening, too.)

Until then, we beg your patience, and ask that you pardon our dust as we make some needed changes around here. We will return to our regular format and frequency soon.*



The Housing Corner

Maintaining Property Standards

Clean, safe and well maintained housing is one of the backbones of a good neighborhood. MACC's Housing Committee is helping to ensure that Morningside continues to be a neighborhood recognized for its quality housing stock.

The city of Pittsburgh's recent addition of the **311 Response Line** is assisting the efforts of residents across the city to ensure housing and property maintenance code compliance. The Housing Committee is working with local building inspectors and numerous resi-

dents to uphold this standard of quality.

In addition to the **311 Response Line** option, the MACC Housing Committee is making available an email address that you can use to make housing and property maintenance code complaints or bring other housing related concerns to the attention of the committee. The address is: macchousing@yahoo.com.

A Housing Committee member will respond to your concerns by researching the identified issue and facilitating it to the proper personnel.

Morningside needs your assistance in helping maintain the community's tradition as a strong neighborhood with quality housing.

Problems at Heth's Field

Neighbors who live close to Heth's Field know the city park bestows mixed blessings. On the one hand, it attracts families with young children to climb on the playground equipment as well as fans from neighboring communities to watch our teams play softball. The park offers our community a place to gather, to play, and to reflect.

On the other hand... Until recently, the most frequent complaint about the park was about visitors' litter and dog-walkers not cleaning up after their pets.

Unfortunately vandalism, which has affected the park in the past, has now hit unprecedented levels. Additionally, after-hours loitering has become troublesome.

Local residents took their complaints to the Police Zone 5 Community Meeting in July, and the MACC is working with authorities to take steps to ease the problems plaguing the area. More details will follow in the next issue. Until then, please do your part. Clean up after your dog, and call 911 if you see any suspicious behavior or anyone at the park after dusk, which is a violation of the posted rules.

Heth's Park opens at 6 a.m. and closes at dusk. Dogs are allowed in the park, but must be in a leash at all times. Dogs are not allowed in playgrounds or courts at any time. Furthermore, no glass objects (bottles, jars, etc.) are allowed at any time, and alcohol is not permitted.

To help alleviate some of the problems at the park, consider providing a safe and reasonable place for your children to hang out with their friends—maybe your porch, a game room, or back-yard deck. Make sure they have some way to pass the time as the summer ends and their boredom rises. Certainly not all of the kids who are loitering at the park are causing any harm; however, the park closes at dusk. Anyone found at the park after dark is violating the posted rules—whether they are defacing property or simply trying to find a quiet place to chill out with their friends.

Stash the trash: Let's Make Morningside a Better Place!

Litter—it greets us everyday at our entryways, sits in our allies, and takes over the playgrounds and ball fields. So whom do we blame for the mess?

Answer...we blame it on others. Those who do not live in Morningside, our neighbors, and anyone but ourselves.

When we walk by litter, we are encouraging others to desecrate our neighborhood, your neighborhood. It sends a message to others that we don't care about M-Side, our family's safety, even our pet's health.

So the next time you take your garbage to the curb, pick up the litter around your property, your neighbor's property, and even across the street. Even if it's not your garbage, and even if you didn't leave it there. Trust me, you'll make a change.

Since April 2006, with the help of numerous volunteers, the Beautification committee has picked up over 100 bags of trash. Areas of litter clean up have included Heth's Field, Natoli Field, Stanton Avenue, Baker Street, various stairways, the business district and other locations. We have held 12 clean-ups and have received numerous donations for our efforts such as water, snacks, brooms and other supplies.

Remember, we can't wait for others to pick up the trash. The city only has so many hands; volunteers can only donate so much of their time. So it is up to the community to take the extra step to pick up the garbage that sits in our neighborhood.

Also, if you rent, and feel that your property is overwhelmed with debris, please contact your landlord and voice your concerns. The

landlord is responsible to take care of the property. But don't wait for them to pick up an old newspaper or pop can. Many landlords do not live in the area and only visit the property a few times a month. It's no use letting small debris sit for their arrival. Be courteous and pick it up.

Last, please call 311 to anonymously report a property or area that appears unsafe and overgrown with debris. A 311 operator will not ask for your personal information, only the details of the area you are reporting. So it's safe and easy. We can handle small projects, but illegal dumping, vandalism and vacant property is the city's responsibility.

Let's set an example for others and stash the trash. Let's make Morningside a better place.

Ads or news articles for Morningside News are due on the 15th of the month for the next monthly issue. It is our express policy not to accept ads or materials that endorse any candidate for election of political offices.

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Committees
Beautification Membership
Communications Nomination
Fundraising Planning & development
Housing Youth & Special Events

Visit MACC's website for detailed contact information, including contact numbers for our elected officials.

Calendar

August 1
7 p.m. M.A.C.C. Meeting,
Morningside V.F.W.

August 5
Feast of Saint Rocco
4 p.m. Mass at St. Raphael
Church followed by pro-
cession/parade through
Morningside. A reception
will be held in the School
Yard after the Parade with
Zambelli fireworks pre-
sented after dark.

August 9-12

Saint Raphael Church Festi-
val

Call the Church Office for
further information (412)
661-3100

TBD
Morningside Area Commu-
nity Council (MACC) will
sponsor our annual 911
Memorial Community
Day . Please keep an eye
on our website for details,
which will be announced
soon.

M.A.C.C. Meetings
The first Wednesday of every month
at 7 p.m.
Next Meeting: Aug 1
Morningside V.F.W. Hall

M.A.C.C. Membership Application

Please make checks payable to **M.A.C.C.**
Mail check and form to Membership Chair:
Leslie Kass
1706 Jancey Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

\$10.00 per family _____ \$5.00 singles _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
City, St, Zip: _____
Phone: _____
e-mail: _____