



From the M.A.C.C.

15 Minutes of Fame

Thanks to the enthusiastic campaign undertaken by M.A.C.C. Beautification Committee Chair **Amy Ervin**, Morningside has won the “My Neighborhood Clean-Up” contest sponsored by MyPghTV, channel 22. What that means is that on Saturday, November 17th, our regularly scheduled Clean-Up Day will now be sponsored by the station, which will provide volunteers, snacks, and—perhaps most importantly—television coverage for our community!

We’d like to invite you to come out in full force, not only to help clean the neighborhood, but also to show support for the community and make sure the rest of Pittsburgh can see how proud we are of Morningside.

Why are you proud of Morningside? What do you love about our community? We’d like to know. I was reminded this weekend of one of the reasons I enjoy living in Morningside—the people! My fiancé and I were finishing up a major landscaping project, and people kept stopping to complement the work and chat with us. The constant interruptions may have put us a little behind schedule, but they were absolutely worth it. If you were recruiting a friend to move to here, what would you tell them?

If you are a life-long resident, or new to the community, please share your story. To be a part of our next newsletter tribute to Morningside, send an email to the editor at janeen@santore.com*

Community Day

M.A.C.C. sponsored our *Annual Morningside Community Day* on Saturday, September 22, and the people who attended were treated to amazing entertainers, including DJ Jennifer, Ventriloquist Cindy Speck, Magician David Lawrence with his rabbit Thurston, and face painter and balloon sculptor Bridget Harkins

At 6:00 p.m., we paused for a 15 minute military ceremony and remembrance of the 9/11 anniversary. The colors were presented by the American Legion Post 935 Honor Guard. A twenty-one gun salute and the playing of taps followed. Ellen Sorce sang the *Star Spangled Banner* before the colors were presented, and ended with *God Bless America*.

We also remembered former M.A.C.C. President Sam Mastro-

matteo during the ceremony. This was the first year that Sam wasn’t present for Community Day and he was missed.

The evening was topped off with the showing of *Shrek 2*. Kettle corn and drinks were available for all attending the event.

We would like to thank Father Benedetto Vaghetto, pastor of St. Raphael’s Church, for allowing MACC to take over the school yard and Gallagher Hall for community day. It was nice to have an indoor venue for the entertainers in the event of inclement weather. Fortunately, the weather was beautiful this past weekend but it was nice to show the movie indoors and avoid outside interferences.

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Lights, Camera, Action

Community Conversation Summary Report

On a crisp, late summer evening last month, Morningside residents gathered at St. Raphael School to join a community conversation about our local parks. Representative Lisa Bennington invited a panel of our leaders to discuss the state of both Heth’s Field and Natoli Field. The intent was to move past complaining about graffiti, loitering, and bad behavior, and move towards solutions.

M.A.C.C. President Matt Arena and Councilman Len Bodack announced that the M.A.C.C. voted the previous night move forward with installing security cameras at Heth’s Field. Bodack secured the funding for the cameras, which are being installed by the same firm that provides the security cameras for Lawrenceville United. However, before the cameras go up, more streetlights will be installed to provide sufficient lighting for the cameras to work. Mike Gable, Morningside resident and Public Works employee, is working to help fulfill this request. As an added benefit, increased lighting will also serve to deter late night loitering in the park. Lighting and cameras should be installed within 4-6 weeks. Rep. Bennington is working on securing funding for the additional lights.

Panelist Lt. Reyne Kacsuta, the Zone 5 evening shift supervisor, asked members of the community to help monitor both parks, especially as the police department works to increase the number of officers in each zone. “Act 47 hit our communities hard. We believe we’re on our way to hiring more officers, but we need time to build back our numbers.” She urged residents, “We need you to call 911 if you need the police. We cannot dispatch officers from calls that come directly to the station. You are the first step.”

“We need you to call 911...you are the first step.”

-Lt. Reyne Kacsuta

Lt. Kacsuta explained that when people call 911, the dispatcher asks if they’d like to talk with the officers when they arrive on the scene. If you elect not to be contacted, the officers dispatched to investigate do not know who made the complaint. Your identity can remain anonymous to the investigating officers. Only the dispatcher and shift supervisor will know your identity, and that is kept strictly confidential. On the other hand, if you ask the dispatcher to have the officers “see the complainant,” then they can ask you directly about the

event you witnessed, rather than getting information through the dispatcher. Either way, Zone 5 can use your help because, unfortunately, they cannot patrol our neighborhood and our parks around the clock.

If you call 911 and want to remain anonymous, Officer Michael Gay, Zone 5 Community Relations officer, joked to the audience, “You may want to avoid peeping out your window” when the police come to investigate the complaint. Too often, he said, the perpetrator will lock eyes with the person looking out their window, and the caller immediately believes they’ve been “caught by the perp.” In reality, the officer laughed, all your neighbors are looking out their windows, too.

Another audience member said that visiting softball teams often express their relief that they “don’t live in the city” after witnessing some of the fighting and foul language that they see around the park. In an effort to curb that behavior and improve the visitors’ impression of Morningside, and the City of Pittsburgh, he asked if the police department can take a more proactive approach and visit the fields before and/or after planned activities, such as softball games. Lt. Kacsuta asked for the game schedules of the local teams so that she could dispatch cars to the fields during those events as

(Continued on page 2)

Thank you *Eat'n Park!* M.A.C.C. thanks RICH HOFF for his generous support of our community. One lucky resident wins an Eat 'n Park gift card by attending our monthly meetings. Please join us!

Rich Hoff
General Manager



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(Continued from COMMUNITY DAY on page 1)

We would also like to thank Sr. Judith Kenaan, principal of St. Raphael's School and all of the many parents and students from the 7th and 8th grade for their participation. The students held a bake sale and a raffle and all proceeds go towards a class trip. The Senior Center also manned a table at the M.A.C.C. Community Day event.

A special thanks to the following people: Eileen Sorce of Shear Sensations, Lynn Shane for Powell-er Walkers, JoAnn Kline of Life-cycles Unlimited, Mary Ann Merranko, Jo Ann Ficorilli, Matt Arena, Leslie Kass, Nan Pischke, Paul Moyer, Tim Antoszewski, Drew Ficorilli, Albert Dongilli, and Corinne Antoszewski. Without these people the community day would not have been such a success. We extend our thanks to everyone.

Messiah Lutheran Church

Fall Luncheon

Saturday, October 27th, 2007



12:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Lunch served at noon.

A fun afternoon is planned.

\$6.00 per person

For reservations, please call Sally Love at 412-362-1944

(Continued from LIGHTS on page 1)

time allows. "We're absolutely willing to work with the softball team or anyone else," she said. Additionally, she added that after the beginning of the year, bicycle officers will again be deployed from the Zone offices and groups will be able to request their presence for special events.

Currently, one of the challenges the police face is that, by the time they arrive to investigate a 911 call about an event at a park, the offenders have often dispersed; officers must witness an event to issue a citation. However, if the officers do witness disorderly conduct, or obstruction of traffic, they can issue a citation, even to a juvenile. The offender must then make an appearance in court, and face a fine, community service, or both.

According to city regulations, the City Parks close at dusk, and this information is posted in Heth's Field. Unfortunately, "dusk" is not enforceable because it is not easily defined. Lt. Kacsuta suggested posting multiple signs throughout the park, listing a set time that the park closes. This would give the police an enforceable time, and more authority to cite unruly visitors to the park.

Representative Bennington has plans to follow up this community discussion to make sure the action items discussed move forward.

Important Numbers:

Representative Bennington:
412-361-2040
Zone 5 Police Department:
412-665-3607
Crime Prevention Officer Michael Gay: 412-665-3770



Morningside Area Community Council
P.O. Box 40313
Pittsburgh, PA 15201

OCTOBER NEWS LETTER INSERT

Morningside Area Community Council was honored with the award of a \$12,000 grant from the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh. This grant was obtained through the concerted efforts of many. This successful application is a direct result of the coordination of the MACC Community Planning and Design Committee and the input from residents and business owners. MACC thanks all of the members of the committee with special thanks to Matt Diersen, Ben Kelly, Janeen Laforce, Corinne Antoszewski, Joe Kramer, Mary Anne Merranko, Nan Pishke, Amy Ervin, Grant Ervin and Matt Arena, who all worked tirelessly to the fruition and success of this project.



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www.cdcp.org

September 2007

GRANTS | CDCEP Awards Two Design Fund Grants in August

The CDCEP awarded the Fineview Citizens Council (FCC) a \$10,000 Design Fund grant in order to update the Fineview Community Plan. The FCC will focus on a large parcel of land where the former site of WPXI is located. While challenging to develop because of the guide wires that support a tall radio tower, the sloping site has a beautiful view of downtown and will be an asset to the community.

The **Morningside Area Community Council (MACC)** was awarded a \$12,000 Design Fund grant to assist in the design and planning of their business district. With a previously completed market analysis, this grant will allow the council to move forward in forming a vision for the business district.

Mission

The Community Design Center of Pittsburgh (CDCEP) is a non-profit organization that improves the quality of life in the Pittsburgh region by encouraging good design of the built environment. We do this by investing in strategic projects, helping individuals and communities access architecture and planning resources, and educating the public about the impact of design.

[CDCEP](#) [Design Fund](#) [RenPlanSM](#) [Civic Stewardship](#) [Pedal Pittsburgh](#)

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M. A.C.C. Annual Halloween



Party

When: Sunday, October 21, 2007

Where: Morningside VFW Banquet Hall

Time: 1:30PM - 3:30PM



ALL CHILDREN 13 and under are welcome!

You must call to register! Please specify your child's age!

**Events: Spooning for Apples, Crafts, Pumpkin decorating & entertainment!
Best Costume judging, prizes, drinks, hot dogs & chips!**

RESERVATIONS A MUST BY OCTOBER 17, 2007



Please call 412-441-8475 to register your child by Wednesday, October 17, 2007. Children 13 years old and younger!



Candy donations are welcome for this event by dropping them off at 6913 Greenwood Street or 1232 Jancey Street.



Cash donations will also be accepted. Please look for our donation cans that will be available at several business establishments in Morningside.

Sam Mastromatteo

August 25, 1955 - October 12, 2006

It's been a year.

**“Time may dull the pain, but it will never
dim the memories.”**

Sam, the M.A.C.C. and the Community miss you!

MORNINGSIDE GARDENS

Bulbs for Fall Planting

by Amanda Haney

After a dreary winter, I'm sure you enjoy our display of red Emperor tulips in the Baker and Morningside garden plot. Next Spring, look for Humoresque, a red and white variety, which we will plant in November. Bulbs are an easy way to add color to your garden.

Early spring bulbs are especially welcome. Tiny iris reticulata is my favorite, blooming along with the crocus in white, blue and purple. Its only drawback is that the bulbs last only a few years. Who can resist a clump of blue or yellow crocus peaking through the snow? Blue, white or pink Chionodoxa (Glory of the Snow) naturalize and form broad drifts of color. Most early spring bulbs are unattractive to deer.

Tulips come in a multitude of

forms and colors. Most only last for several years, especially in damp soil. For tulips that repeat year after year, choose the early blooming Emporers or species varieties. If you live along the woods, keep tulips out of reach or the deer will munch the buds before they bloom.

Daffodils are the perfect spring bulb. They are poisonous to rabbits and deer. Varieties range from tiny, early gems to huge late types. Forms include doubles and cup shapes from flat discs to long trumpets in yellow, white, pink, red or orange. Every year, they will come back stronger, if planted in sun and well drained soil. Like other spring bulbs, daffodils laugh at frost. (Cover if temperatures stay below 30°.)

A huge variety of spring bulbs can liven up your garden. Check the web sites at the end of this article for a cornucopia of additional types. Check culture re-

quirements carefully, since varieties from the West require summer drought and will rot in our wet conditions. Ensure that you select varieties that are hardy in our zone 6 gardens. Most require part to full sun. Add sharp granite grit (chips), compost (not manure) and/or medium bark mulch for drainage in clay. Don't add sand which will turn your clay to concrete. Follow planting directions carefully.

Most people don't realize that summer bulbs are easy to grow and long lived in the garden. Alliums are tough plants in the onion family. This genus includes both spring and summer flowering bulbs in nearly every color from eye-popping 10" lavender balls of Allium Gladiator, to rose, blue or yellow summer bloomers. Be careful with these: some smaller varieties may reseed rampantly in your garden, unless deadheaded carefully before seed sets.

If you walk in Morningside during June, you are familiar with the red, orange or yellow Asiatic Lilies. Less common are the later blooming Oriempet hybrids. Most of these six to eight foot beauties need no staking, but require 6 hours of sun and well drained, rich soil. The best include dark red Scheherazade and pink and white Silk Road, which will perfume your late July garden for three to four weeks.

Bulbs are found in many local stores. For unusual varieties or better quantity prices, order from mail order or internet sources. Be careful. If prices seem too good to be true, the bulbs may be undersized or carry diseases. The following companies carry top quality bulbs at fair prices.

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Are you missing something?

If you don't have the *Morningside News* delivered to your door, then your block might be in need of a captain. We're looking for a few good volunteer **block captains** to deliver newsletters – the commitment amounts to about one hour a month. As an added bonus, beginning this year, block captains will be feted once a year with an Appreciation Party. If that is incentive enough for you, then contact the newsletter editor or any M.A.C.C. Board Member.

St. Raphael School

Children Go Green

In an effort to become environmentally conscious members of this community, St. Raphael School children are going green. They are collecting the following items to recycle and prevent from going into land fills: newspaper, aluminum soda cans, 20 oz. plastic bottles, cartridges from large and small printers, old, PDA's, cell phones, Blackberries and video consol units like Atari and Nintendo consoles and laptops. All of these items will be accepted at the school during school hours. Newspapers and maga-

zines may be deposited in the bins behind the school building. The school is located at 1154 Chislett in Morningside. Go Green!

Preschool Suite to Open

St. Raphael School Preschool Suite is set to open the first week in October. Schedule a tour and feast you eyes on this beautiful new place for 3 year old and 4 year old children to learn and have fun together. Call for a tour 412-661-0288.

–Beth McKinstry

Thank You

MACC would like to thank the volunteers who helped with the September clean up, especially the new University of Pittsburgh Dental School students. Our next clean up and flower/bulb planting is scheduled for NOVEMBER 17, 2007. Please mark your calendars and look for an announcement in next month's newsletter.

VFW Calendar of Events

- Oct. 6th Nov. 3rd Dec. 1st: **Irish Dancing** in VFW hall starts at 7:00, minimal charge
- Oct. 13th: 7:00 to 11:00 pm **Soft Winds Doo Wop** group \$15.00 per ticket includes free draft beer, soda pop and food. Tickets on sale at the VFW 412.361.9614
- Oct. 27th **Halloween Party** prizes for costumes, \$10.00 per ticket
- Nov. 17th **"Elvis Lives"** \$10.00 per ticket includes free draft beer and soda pop
- Dec. 31st **New Years Eve Party** \$15.00 per ticket, disc jockey Bob Scullion
- Jan. 26th **Magic Moments** \$15.00 per ticket includes free draft beer and soda pop

M.A.C.C. meets at the Morningside V.F.W. Hall on the first Wednesday of Month at 7 p.m. 2007 Dates: October 3, November 7, December 5



Morningside Dental

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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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<u>Committees</u>	
Beautification	Membership
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Visit MACC's website for detailed contact information, including contact numbers for our elected officials.



Scheepers Bulbs:
www.johnscheepers.com/
index.html 860-567-0838

Brent and Becky's Bulbs:
www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com
877 661-2852

The Lily Garden:
www.thelilygarden.com
360-253-6273

For specific garden questions, please contact Penn State Cooperative Extension: <http://allegheny.extension.psu.edu>
412-473-2540

For future column topics, email me at a.haney@verizon.net or contact the MACC editor.

Photos

Top: iris reticulata
Bottom: lilium Scheherazade



M.A.C.C. Membership Application

Please make checks payable to M.A.C.C. \$10.00 per family _____ \$5.00 singles _____
Mail check and form to Membership Chair: Name: _____
 Leslie Kass Address: _____
 1706 Jancey Street City, St, Zip: _____
 Pittsburgh, PA 15206 Phone: _____
 e-mail: _____