

Morningside Area Community Council
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Morningside News - Fall 2009

A publication of the Morningside Area Community Council

October Newsletter

TASTE OF MORNINGSIDE & MURAL UNVEILING EVENT

The Morningside Mural is here and we hope you will join us in the celebration!

The new Morningside mural is finished courtesy of sponsorship by the Sprout Fund and mural artist Jeffrey Schreckengost, who was selected by the residents of Morningside. The mural is on the side of the Morningside Market on Greenwood Street. Event is free, but a suggested donation of \$3 per person/\$5 per family/Kids under 8 free.

Date: Saturday - October 17, 2009
Time: 4pm-6pm
Location: Corner of Greenwood & Chislett Streets next to mural

Live music by "The Beagle Brothers" and "The Surf Zombies", free food, and more!
Rain or Shine

There will not be a MACC Halloween Party this year, but Halloween costumes are encouraged at the Mural Celebration.

Please RSVP Children attending the event by 10/12/09 by calling Corinne at 412-441-8475. Children will receive a free goody bag.

To earn the mural, members of the community applied to the Sprout Fund in March and were chosen by Sprout in April. Harry Dulani of the Morningside Market kindly offered the use of his wall.

Sprout Public Art improves the image of the region by enhancing the visual landscape of neighborhoods in Pittsburgh and the surrounding communities of Allegheny County by creating high quality public art.

Mural artist, Jeffrey Schreckengost is the head graphic designer for the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh. Even though people who are familiar with his work identify him by his painting, no creative endeavor is off limits. Studio time is often filled with filmmaking, screen printing and creating unusual musical instruments. His love for music brought him

to not only play in Pittsburgh bands, but to create a large group of album cover illustrations. His paintings, illustrations and films have been exhibited widely around Pittsburgh. To view his art, visit www.jschreckengost.wordpress.com.

HALLOWEEN CANDY NEEDED

The MACC is requesting Halloween Candy for the Mural Event. Please contact Corinne at 412-441-8475 to donate candy or money. Please deliver by 10/12/09.

Candy will be given to children under 10 years-old who attend Mural Celebration on 10/17/09. Costumes are encouraged.

FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE DOM COSTA

Dear Morningside Residents,

As I am in Harrisburg working on the state budget, I just wanted to pass along some news from my office.

As a reminder if you have not already filed your 2008 Property Tax/Rent Rebate, the deadline is December 31, 2009. Don't forget, if you turned 65 before December 31, 2008 you may qualify. If you need assistance in filing, please feel free to stop by the office and we will be happy to help you.

We are going to be offering FREE FLU SHOTS at the Morningside Senior Center for ALL SENIORS at the end of October. Please stop at the Senior Center or call the office at 412-361-2040 before October 13, 2009 to sign up. We will contact you with the exact date as soon as we have it.

Lastly, we are happy to announce that our office will be moving into the new building being built across from Rite Aid hopefully, by December 1, 2009. We look forward to you coming in and seeing us at our new office.

I am looking forward to completing the state budget and returning back to my office. I miss seeing everyone!

Dom

Become a Member of the MACC

Become a member of the MACC by contacting Leslie Kass at 412-441-7978. Membership includes quarterly newsletter, membership card, and the right to vote on issues regarding the community and much more! \$5.00 per member (over 18 years old) for annual membership. Your support is greatly appreciated. Membership fees help support local events, clean up costs, and the needs of the community.

M.A.C.C. MEMBERSHIP FORM

\$5 Per Person _____ (Total)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

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

Mail check and application to Membership Chair:
Leslie Kass
1706 Jancey Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Thank you for your support of the M.A.C.C.

PORT AUTHORITY ROUTE CHANGES PROPOSED

The Port Authority of Allegheny County is currently reviewing and proposing changes to its route structure. Route changes will impact Morningside and surrounding communities and will take effect in 2010. Port Authority's Transit Development Plan (TDP), is being implemented to help the authority improve efficiency and enhance service. The new route proposal seeks to eliminate the 94B route from service, while increasing availability of the 77F and 77G service. The 77 Routes will soon be called the 87 Route. The 77D service will be discontinued under the proposed plans.

MACC, with support from residents and local officials, is proposing the transfer of the current 74B route (which runs from RIDC Park to Oakland via Highland Park) to travel through Morningside. Moving the route to Morningside accomplishes several things. First, it would maintain similar service to Waterworks shopping center and East Liberty previously provided by the 94B. Second, shifting the 74B (soon to be called the 73) to Morningside would create direct access to Oakland for the neighborhood. Finally, transferring the route from Highland Park to Morningside will eliminate congestion along Highland and Negley Avenues and reduce overlap for the newly proposed "rapid" routes serving the two corridors. Maintaining a route similar to the 94B would preserve service for current riders, while adding the Oakland destination would improve access to one of the most popular employment destinations for Morningside residents.

MACC has submitted the recommendation & results of a survey of residents to the Port Authority and is awaiting a decision from the Authority.

For survey results visit www.maconline.org

TURNING THE CORNER: NEW DEVELOPMENT AT 1742 MORNINGSIDE AVENUE

You may have noticed some heavy equipment and the sound of construction at the corner of Morningside Avenue and Greenwood Street. The location is the former spot of a long standing abandoned home and then a vacant lot, will soon transform into new commercial office space. Real estate developer, John Sheerer, is in the process of creating 5000 square feet of professional office space. The project, inspired by the Morningside Business District Concept Plan, is the first addition of new commercial space in the district in several years. Mr. Sheerer intends to have the project completed by the end of 2009.

MACC COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

Several years ago the MACC received a grant from the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) associated with the closing and repurposing of Morningside Elementary. As it stands, we currently have some money left available to us, but the clock is ticking on how long it will be available.

During the past few MACC meetings, we've decided to take the remaining grant money and use it to develop a more comprehensive communication strategy for the MACC in order to better communicate with the community. We are now in the final stages of selecting a vendor and executing a contract with the URA. In the next few months, this project should be in full swing, with a goal of better community engagement and communication and we expect you will see some very positive changes.

If you're interested in being a part of this project or have ideas on how to improve communication within the Morningside community, feel free to contact John Santore at john@santore.com.

MORNINGSIDE SCHOOL DEVELOPERS SELECTED

A project review team consisting of the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA), Pittsburgh Public Schools and Morningside Area Community Council selected Green Development, a partnership between real estate developers Ernie Sota and Barry Lhorner to redevelop the Morningside School. The URA led a review process consisting of several competitive proposals. The review team selected Green Development's proposal to create seventeen to twenty-two high quality market rate rental residential units. Mr. Lhorner and Mr. Sota have vast experience in real estate development projects across the Pittsburgh market. The project developers are currently in the process of completing a financial feasibility analysis of the project. They anticipate having the analysis completed this fall.

VISIT THE NEW MACC WEBSITE

Have you been to the MACC website recently? Our website has been updated and houses information about events, activities, and opportunities in Morningside.

Additionally, the MACC website is a great place to look for news about issues that impact our neighborhood like the Heth's Run Project, Morningside Elementary Project, and proposed changes to PAT service. Visit us today at www.maconline.org

CALENDAR & EVENTS

MACC Meetings

MACC meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00p.m. at the Morningside VFW Hall at 1820 Morningside Avenue. All members and non-members are encouraged and welcomed to attend. Please share your voice.

November 4, 2009 - MACC Meeting

December 2, 2009 - MACC Meeting

January 6, 2009 - MACC Meeting

EVENTS

Public Safety (Zone 4 & 5 City Wide Meeting)

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

6:00pm - 9:00pm

Teamsters Temple, 4701 Butler Street

Meet the Mayor, Chief of Police, Zone Commanders & heads of departments. Refreshments served.

Questions call Corinne at 412-441-8475

Neighborhood Litter Clean Up

Saturday, October 17, 2009

10:00am - 1:00pm

Rain or Shine

Meet at VFW (1820 Morningside Ave)

Gloves and Bags provided

Questions call Amy at 412-362-0132

Taste of Morningside/Mural Celebration

Saturday, October 17, 2009

4:00pm - 6:00pm (Rain or Shine)

Fall Festival & Pumpkin Patch

Saturday, October 24, 2009

Messiah Lutheran Church (1736 Jancey St)

12:00pm - 5:00pm (Rain or Shine)

Baked goods, pumpkins, candy apples and more!

Questions call 412-661-4788

Morningside Tree Planting

Saturday, November 7, 2009

Volunteers needed. Call Amy 412-362-0132

Children's Holiday Pageant

Friday, December 4, 2009

Messiah Lutheran Church (1736 Jancey St)

7:00pm - 9:30pm

In order to continue to keep Morningside a thriving community, we are always looking for volunteers. Members & non-members are encouraged to provide their specialties. From website development to litter clean up; Block Captains to Gardeners, your time and knowledge is needed. Contact the MACC if you would like to learn about volunteer opportunities. All ages welcomed. Community service hours available.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

GOLD SPONSOR

Dr. Wayne Decroo - 1809 Jancey St
Hairstyles by Lisa - 1741 Chislett St

SILVER SPONSOR

First Commonwealth Bank - 1801 Jancey St
Morningside VFW - 1820 Morningside Ave
Tim's Barber Shop - 1802 Chislett St

BRONZE SPONSOR

Shear Sensations - 1801 Chislett St

MORNINGSIDE AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MACC OFFICERS

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MACC Nomination & MACC Events

Vacant

Nominations are due for the MACC Officers. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact John Santore at 412-292-5356.