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**Take a Break from  
March Madness  
Tuesday March 27  
5:00 pm to 7:00 pm**

# InSide North Side

A Publication of the North Side/North Shore Chamber of Commerce, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
March/April 2007

## Join the NSNS/CC For Celebration in the Park 5 and Take a Trip Back in Time



Each year we offer a new creative theme for our Celebration, two years ago we had Andy Warhol fiberglass statues that were unveiled at the event and thematically we had offered silk screening art projects for visitors in the park. Last year, we worked with a local artist Cheryl Capezzuti to create giant puppets that were used to tell the story about the North Side and accompanying that program was a tent that offered puppet making to those who were at the event. 2007 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the North Side being annexed to the City of Pittsburgh and because of this, we are proposing to create historic driven art themes through



our puppet artist and also through the hands-on art tents that we will be providing. There is also a planned history tent. We have asked a number of community groups for copies of old photographs from their neighborhoods and for people with stories about growing up on the North Side. On April 4 at 6:00 p.m. at the Children's Museum there will be a special presentation about the history of Allegheny City before the urban renewal of the 1960's. In addition to the history element this year, we plan to have all of the standard festival programming including: bouncy playgrounds, kids crafts, 3 on 3 basketball, exhibitors, public safety displays, vendors

and food vendors. Festival program booklets with the complete schedule of the day's activities will be available at local North Side merchants. If you are interested in participation in *North Side Celebration in the Park* by being advertising in the program booklet or being a food or art vendor, musician, visual performers or volunteer contact the NSCC at 412-231-6500.

### Franco Harris Event - Save the Date

Franco Harris to speak at NorthSide/NorthShore Chamber event on Wednesday, April 18 at 5:30 p.m. Hear about his plans for his new restaurant.

### Take a Break from March Madness

For Some Good Old Fashion Networking on Troy Hill



RSVP to NSNSCC  
412-231-6500

**Bring your best game and be prepared to slam dunk your business pitch to your fellow business people**

Please no dribbling

Tuesday March 27, 2007 • 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Billy's on Troy Hill • 1720 Lowrie Street  
Appetizers and Happy Hour Discount Drinks

Cost is \$10 for Members • \$15 for Non-Members

For directions go to [www.billysbistro.com](http://www.billysbistro.com)

### North Side Community Night with the Pirates



The 19th Annual North Side Community Night with the Pirates is Tuesday, June 12. This is an inter-league game with Texas Rangers and Max Carey HOF Collectable Coin night. There are a limited number of tickets so order early. The cost is \$20 that includes tailgate party with food beer and soft drinks, an event t-shirt and a bleacher ticket to the game. To make reservations for your group, contact the NS/NSCC for an order form. Or if you would like to be a sponsor or help with the event call 412-231-6500.

**Inside Chamber Business**

**NSNSCC Legislative Update**

*John Graf*

**Streamlining of City Permitting**

A central tenet of the Legislative Committee's agenda has been, since its inception in 2005, to urge City government to streamline the permitting process for new businesses. The idea was to encourage new businesses by not forcing prospective business owners to make multiple trips to various City departments in order to obtain the necessary approvals in order to open their doors. The Legislative Committee has presented its proposals to Mayor Ravenstahl and the late Mayor O'Connor, both of whom accepted the Chamber's proposals with interest.

Mayor Ravenstahl's office announced a step in the right direction toward achieving this goal, with the advent of "one stop shopping" for obtaining business and building permits.

Beginning on March 5, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, homeowners and contractors will be able to

register and walk their building permit applications through the various departments and reviewers, obtaining a permit that same day, provided they meet zoning/building code requirements and their applications are complete. All applicants would be required to be registered at the Zoning counter no later than noon on the day of the walk-through to have the permit processed the same day. Projects eligible for walk-thru permitting would be minor residential permits for single family detached and attached dwelling units. Minor permits would include: roofs; additions, extensions, and alterations; swimming pools; shutters; fences; decks and patios; kitchens and kitchen replacements; and accessory uses, i.e. sheds and garages.

While the single day permitting is a welcome step in the right direction, more work needs to be done so that other, more complicated projects can be guided through what can be a frustrating, expensive and complicated process with more speed and efficiency.

**CITIZENOBSERVER Pilot Program Begins on the North Side**

This month, Zone 1 Police Station became a "pilot" participant in "CITIZENOBSERVER", an internet communication tool that provides citizen alerts, press releases and crime prevention information via the internet, web & email.

Funds provided by the city and state along with corporate funding, North Side Leadership Conference and Zone 1 Police Station, have contributed to setting this effort in motion.

This new tool will allow officers from Zone 1 to get critical information out quickly to the public. The alerts will notify anyone who registers with "CITIZENOBSERVER" that there is information on the website about possible criminal activity happening in the area. The information is shared with various news sources, this site allows people who may not watch television to get the information too.

Anyone can sign up, registration is free. Simply go to the "CITIZENOBSERVER" website at [www.citizenobserver.com](http://www.citizenobserver.com) to register. Once a person has registered, they can decide how they want to receive alerts via any wireless

method (e-mail, cell phone or pager) or fax. Once registered, our citizens will then know there is new information available on their community web page-and they can update their "profiles" at any time. The North Side Leadership Conference along with officers from the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police-Zone 1 Police Station-encourages all residents and businesses within the boundaries of the North Side of the City of Pittsburgh to sign up and start receiving vital information and alerts today. It is a free service.

An example of how this program works is that a few months ago, when the pawn shop on East Ohio Street was robbed and guns were taken, an alert would have gone out to those participating in "CITIZENOBSERVER" would have been notified by email and to be on the look out for possible suspects.

For more information, contact Officer Forrest Hodges at Zone 1 Station at 412-323-7200 or email him at [forrest.hodges@city.pittsburgh.pa.us](mailto:forrest.hodges@city.pittsburgh.pa.us)



**The Linda LeFever Scholarship Fund**

Linda LeFever, who passed away last September is being honored for her contributions to the North Side and region with, a scholarship fund. Commemorative Tree of Life Pins are available to purchase at the NS/NSCC office at 809 Middle street. Proceeds from the pins go toward the scholarship fund or you can make a contribution to Washington County Community Foundation, Inc. Washington Federal Building, 77 South Main Street, Washington, PA 15301. We are half way to our goal of \$50,000 to establish the fund. For more information call 412-231-6500.

**Charm Bracelet Project Exhibition**

Children's Museum of Pittsburgh is sponsoring *The Charm Bracelet Project*, an international ideas program for helping define Pittsburgh's North Side as a family destination by improving connections between the numerous cultural assets here. Four design teams have been invited to respond to the challenge. Their responses are featured in an exhibition of ideas at the Children's Museum through May 6.

The *Charm Bracelet Project* involves the unique cultural, entertainment, and educational venues that make up the 'charms' of our North Side neighborhood. The fundamental challenge of the project is to identify potential strategies for stringing together these charms. Connections are being explored on the levels of programming, physical urban streetscape and marketing/branding. The core concept of the project lies in the opportunity to strengthen and guide future development in a manner that enhances family experiences.

Admission to *The Charm Bracelet Project* exhibition is free and open to the public during Museum hours. There is an admission fee to enter the Museum's activities areas.

This Project is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, The Heinz Endowments and The Gailliot Family Foundation.

**New Installations by Artists from India**

To celebrate their 30th year, the Mattress Factory is presenting *India: New Installations*. Mattress Factory Curator, Michael Olijnyk and Executive/Artistic Director Barbara Luderowski traveled to India and selected ten artists to participate in two exhibitions throughout 2007. These artists will come to Pittsburgh, live in residence at the museum, and create new work on site in the gallery.

*"Right now, Indian contemporary art is making a huge impact on the world art scene. At the same time, India, as a country, is going through a transformation. More and more, India is having a great influence on world economics and politics. It is an interesting time to invite these artists to come to the States and provide a window into one of the oldest cultures in the world as it goes through a rebirth on a global scale."* -Michael Olijnyk, Curator of Exhibitions

The Mattress Factory has already begun to make connections with members of the Indian community to help plan an exciting year full of programming to compliment *India: New Installations*. This exciting events schedule will include education programs, cultural activities, family programs and a film festival in partnership with the Museum of Modern Art and the Indo-American Arts Council.

*"It is important for us to accompany our exhibitions with a strong educational program--to help increase understanding and awareness of art, artists, and in this case, of a culture that our visitors may know little about."* -Barbara Luderowski, Executive/Artistic Director

Artists Included in the Exhibitions:  
**Part One Opening April 15, 2007**  
**Mansi Bhatt** (b. 1975) studied commercial art at Kala Kendra College of Art and received her degree in painting in 2000 from the Sir Jamshedjee Jeebhoy (J.J.) University, Mumbai. Her work combines photography, painting, digital media and performance, taking a fresh look at hidebound perceptions and prejudices about Indians and women in the wider world. Her work has been exhibited at the Lalit Kala Academy Art Gallery, and the Kala Ghoda Arts Festival, Mumbai, Jehangir Art Gallery and the National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai.

March/April 2007

**Welcome New NS/NSCC Members**

**AFLAC**  
Matthew McClay  
810 River Avenue Suite 230  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
412-323-8855  
Supplemental Insurance

**Carbis Walker**  
Jeffrey J. Petrell  
5000 McKnight Road Suite 404  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
412-635-6270  
Accounting

**CTAC**  
Brenda Balacs  
901 Western Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15233  
412-231-2822  
Non-profit Technical Assistance

**Monthly Membership Meeting Established**

The NS/NSCC Membership Committee has established a monthly meeting for new Chamber members as well as anyone else that would like to attend. The third Tuesday of every month will be a breakfast meeting from 8—9:00 am at the Allegheny Sandwich Shoppe, 822 Western Avenue. This will serve as an orientation for new members and a networking opportunity for anyone else who would like to attend.

**Happy First Anniversary Beeleza**

Congratulations to Beeleza Community Coffee House on recently celebrating their one year anniversary in business. Beeleza is located at 1501 Buena Vista Street. To find out more information call 412-321-4210

**Sharry Everett Scholarship Fundraiser**

*The Shanks*, a Pittsburgh rock band, and 2 guest bands will be performing a night of Rock and Roll music to benefit the Sharry Everett Scholarship Fund on April 21, 2007 from 8:00-11:30pm at the New Hazlett Theater. Ticket will be selling for \$15 and will include concert admission, food, and beverages. You must be 21 or older to attend. For more information, please check out [www.newhazletttheater.org](http://www.newhazletttheater.org) or [www.sesf.org](http://www.sesf.org).

If you would like flyers for your community or business, please contact 412.535.0480

**Amani International Opens in East Allegheny**

"Uniting culture with one cup" is the tag line on the menu for Amani International, a new coffeehouse that opened at 507 Foreland Street. They not only offer a variety of coffee beverages, they have a selection of tea, smoothies, pastries, salads and wraps. If you want to get some work done, there is also free wireless internet access. To find out more information, call 412-322-0647 or visit on line: [www.amaniinternational.com](http://www.amaniinternational.com).

**Science Center Hosts Giant Beach Party**

Carnegie Science Center is celebrating the start of spring with the biggest science Beach Party ever on Saturday, March 24. During this one-day event, visitors can build sand castles in the Science Center lobby, sip on kid-friendly frozen tropical drinks, listen to sounds of steel drums and get a chance to participate in other types of "beach-y" activities including face painting, food, and lots of giveaways. Visitors are encouraged to wear their Hawaiian shirts and shorts, and come ready to play!

For more information, call 412-237-3400 or visit [www.CarnegieScienceCenter.org](http://www.CarnegieScienceCenter.org).

**NS/NS Chamber Tentative Program Schedule**

- March 27** - Escape March Madness
- April 18** - Meet Franco Harris
- May** - Legislative Event
- June 12** - Community Night with the Pirates
- July 28** - Celebration in the Park
- August** - Networking w/speaker
- September** - Golf Outing
- October** - Taste of the North Side
- November** - North Side Business Awards Lunch
- December** - Holiday Party

March/April 2007