

## Allegheny City Society Upcoming Annexation Events



“What took Place Here: The Annexation of Allegheny City.” The board of directors of Allegheny City Society will have a lecture and round table, Thursday, September 27, on the history and consequences of the annexation of Allegheny City on December 7, 1907 to the City of Pittsburgh. Great opportunity to hear the real story, see “before” and “after” photographs, meet and greet Allegheny North Side residents-past and present, Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road, North Hills. From 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., there is no charge.

Saturday, October 20, “What’s Happening in Allegheny Today,” is a guided motorcoach tour of the 14 neighborhoods surrounding the Allegheny Commons. Visit the national historic districts & community development areas of the North Side. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Starts at 8:45 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., the cost is \$40 per person. Includes lunch. Call 412-322-8807 for details.



Join your fellow North Siders and Friends of Linda, for the Rooftop Reggae and Fireworks Party, a unique and fun evening atop one of the most distinctive buildings in the neighborhood, the Northern Light Tower at 1010 Western Avenue, on Friday, September 28 starting at 7:00 p.m. and until the fireworks are over.

Money raised from this event will go to the Linda LeFever Scholarship Fund. The cost is \$40 in advance and \$50 at the door. Price includes two drinks and hors d’oeuvres and of course reggae and fireworks. Checks should be written to Washington County Foundation, Noting the Linda LeFever Scholarship Fund and then mailed to the NorthSide NorthShore Chamber of Commerce, 809 Middle Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

**Save the Date For The First NorthSide/NorthShore Chamber of Commerce Business Awards Luncheon**  
**Wednesday, October 24, 2007**  
*The NS/NSCC has been helping North Side Business since 1897*



809 Middle Street  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15212-4918  
 412-231-6500  
[www.northsidechamberofcommerce.com](http://www.northsidechamberofcommerce.com)



# InSide North Side

A Publication of the North Side/North Shore Chamber of Commerce, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
 August /September 2007

## Celebration Thank You!



Celebration in the Park held on July 28 was one of the best attended. David McMunn from Allegheny City Society did a fantastic job with the history tent compiling hundreds of photos for the display. Cheryl Capezzuti for the second year in a row did an outstanding job with her puppet workshops and puppet parades through the park. Cheryl and her students created giant puppets that featured famous historical women of the North Side along with various plays that explained the history. The Boy Scouts even brought their climbing wall.



The 5th Annual North Side



A special thank you goes out the sponsors who made this event possible: The Buhl Foundation, National City, Pipitone Group, Verizon, Allegheny General Hospital, American Heart Association, FNB Bank, PennTelecom, Pittsburgh Pirates and Amcom Office Systems. Much appreciation to all of the committee people as well: David McMunn, Cheryl Capezzuti, Stephanie Buka, Kim Lyons-Neel, Erin Conley, Debra Caplan, Stephanie Greenleaf, Ken Turnbull & ACAC, Urban Impact Foundation, Bill Schlageter, Beth Keating and Dan Wintermantel and Pete McQuillin.

Join Riverside Center for Innovation and the NS/NSCC for next year’s Celebration in the Park is Saturday, July 26, 2008

## North Side Charity Golf Outing



The 8th Annual North Side Charity Golf Outing is Monday, September 24, at Cranberry Highland Golf Course. This year benefits the Western PA Humane Society here on the North Side.

It’s a great day to network and play golf, starting with 11:30 a.m. registration; 12:30 p.m. shotgun start with a scramble format. Dinner and networking start at 5:30pm includes wonderful Chinese auction items and raffle and door prizes. Even if you don’t golf it’s a great evening of networking.

Since the inception of the Charity golf outing, the NorthSide/NorthShore Chamber and its partner Riverside Center for Innovation have given away over \$14,500 to various North Side charitable agencies that impact many local youth and seniors.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Golf is \$125 a person, includes lunch and dinner or if you would just like to attend dinner, the cost is \$30. Call 412-322-3523 to make your reservations or to sponsor.

## Cardinal Wright Honors NS/NSCC and General Hayden

Dan Rooney and Kevin McClatchy, the North Side Friends and Neighbors and Cardinal Wright Regional School are hosting the 10th Annual Gala Pittsburgh Sports Night, Thursday, October 11th, at Heinz Field East Club Lounge from 6 to 9 p.m. This wonderful evening is filled with entertainment, refreshments, silent auctions, visits and autographs from sports celebrities. The gala raises money to support tuition at the Cardinal Wright Regional School, here on the North Side. The honorees for 2007 will be head of the CIA, General Michael V. Hayden (a North Sider), and the NorthSide/NorthShore Chamber. If you are interested in attending this event, The cost is \$100 and tickets are available at the NS/NSCC office.

## Monthly NS/NSCC Membership Meetings

The third Tuesday of every month 8 to 9:15 am Amani International Coffeehouse at 507 Foreland Street. Open to anyone interested in networking their business or learning more about the Chamber

## WPA Humane Society Best Friends’ Ball

Don’t miss the Western Pennsylvania Humane Society’s annual Best Friends’ Ball on Friday, September 28 from 6:30 to 11 p.m. at the North Side Shelter, 1101 Western Avenue.

Behind the scenes tours of the shelter, lots of animals for adoption, tasty food from Kaufmann House, and lots of one of a kind dog houses designed by local artists and celebrities. Cocktail dress & tennis shoes. Tickets are \$75 a person or \$125 a pair. Call Gretchen Fieser at 412-321-4625 ext. 248.

## YMCA Making Sense on Investing

Edward Jones and the Allegheny YMCA are teaming up to offer seminars on *Making Sense on Investing*. Seminars will be held on Tuesdays, 9/25, 10/9 and 10/23 starting at 7:00 p.m. and last for 60 minutes. Call John Taormina, Program Director, at 412-321-8594 for more information.

## Inside Chamber Business

### NSNSCC Legislative Update *John Graf*

The North Side/ North Shore Chamber of Commerce has announced its opposition to the enactment of legislation by Allegheny County which would impose a 10% tax on the retail sale of poured alcoholic beverages (the "Pour Tax"). The tax, modeled after similar legislation in Philadelphia, would impose a tax of up to 10% on every alcoholic beverage or bottle of wine served in a restaurant, banquet facility, tavern or night club in the county. The Pour Tax would have a severe negative impact on economic development in Allegheny County and on the North Side and North Shore in particular. Chamber members are urged to contact their county council representatives to express their disagreement with the Pour Tax and to suggest that these elected official not support the legislation

The Pour Tax will have a negative impact for a variety of reasons: (1) *The Pour Tax will Hamper the Development of new Restaurant, Tavern and Nightclubs and Will Act to Drive Existing Establishments Out of Business.* As members of a competitive marketplace, restaurants, taverns and nightclubs are now charging for alcoholic beverages now what their particular market will bear. Thus, the payment of any Pour

Tax will come from operator revenues, and will have two primary effects: (1) established businesses will see already narrow profit margins diminish further, causing existing operators to see less profit and operators on the edge of profitability to close up shop; and (2) potential developers of new facilities will opt not to open new establishments (at least in Allegheny County) because of the diminished margins.

**2) The Pour Tax Will Have a Disproportionate Impact on Independent and Family Owned Businesses:** Many of the restaurants, taverns and nightclubs on the North Side and North Shore (as throughout Allegheny County) are independent and/or family-owned businesses. The Penn Brewery, Max's Allegheny Tavern, Sassy Marie's, The Park House and Billy's Bistro are just a few of North Side spots that draw patrons from around the County and region. As noted above, the Pour Tax will come right out of the pockets of small independent like these -- businesses which can least afford to have their profit margins reduced any further. Large chain restaurant and bars typically have deep pockets and corporate investment to absorb the losses caused by a Pour Tax; these independent businesses do not.

**(3) The Pour Tax Will Cause a Drag on Neighborhood Business District Development:** The Pour Tax will hinder the ability

of neighborhood community development Groups, neighborhood councils, and private entrepreneurs to redevelop the residential commercial business districts which form the center of the City's neighborhoods. Among other things, experience in this City has shown that clusters of restaurants and nice taverns are often the vanguard for Main Street redevelopment (as they were on the South Side). As discussed above, the Pour Tax will act as a barrier to new entrepreneurs looking to locate in urban neighborhoods by diminishing the potential profit they can make. **(4) Why Tax Poured Alcoholic Beverages?** There is no rhyme nor reason to the taxation of this particular product versus others, with the negative consequences on one industry. There is no connection whatsoever to the retail sale of alcoholic beverages at bars and restaurants and mass transit. Why not tax soft drinks or fast food? Why not tax bottled water? Singling out one product and one industry for a dedicated tax for mass transit is simply arbitrary and capricious. If you are support the position of the Chamber on this critical issue, please contact the offices of Dan Onorato at (412) 350-6500, and the offices of County Councilor Brenda Frazier at (412) 350-6585, or at [bfrazier@allegheny.county.pa.us](mailto:bfrazier@allegheny.county.pa.us) to express your opposition to the Pour Tax.

### OBSERVATORY HILL MURAL KICKS OFF

The Observatory Hill Community was chosen as the recipient of a neighborhood mural in 2007 in conjunction with the Sprout Fund Pittsburgh Public Art Program. A mural committee consisting of Observatory Hill, Inc. board members and interested neighbors was formed to develop a mural illustrating the community assets and history of the neighborhood. After multiple brainstorming meetings with Sprout facilitators conceptual ideas were relayed to varying artists to present their creative images for the mural. A public showing of artists' concepts for all of the 2007 Sprout Fund community murals was held at Concept Gallery in Regent Square. The artists selected for the Observatory Hill mural were Dave and Fran Hawbaker. Dave and Fran are both art teachers and their passion for murals resulted in a spectacular design that incorporated all of the



ideas desired by the mural committee. The mural is located at the convenience store on the corner of Perrysville Avenue and Vinceton Street. Observatory Hill would like to thank Mr. Deepak Parikh, the owner of the convenience store for seeing this project through and demonstrating his true commitment to the community. Everyone can look forward to a grand celebration surrounding the murals completion later this fall

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### New Member Profile



#### Bistro To Go moving ahead

With an anticipated opening in September, the new *Bistro To Go* is making steady progress in it's build out at 415 East Ohio Street. The first visible evidence of this new culinary destination was the creation of an outdoor garden courtyard with flowers, greenery, a fountain and tables for al fresco dining.

When open, customers can savor foods from cross cultural cuisines made from the freshest ingredients. Bistro meals-to-go will not only be taken out to home or office, but also enjoyed on the premises, which has cozy seating for 30 inside and for 20 in the courtyard.

*Bistro To Go's* new team of experienced culinary professionals, headed by owner Nikki Heckman, will offer a tasty variety of meals and sides from a menu that changes daily and seasonally. The team will also offer extensive catering services and a variety of cooking classes.

While Mrs. Heckman has startup support from a wide community of people, two key team members in the business venture are Joe Grondziowski, most recently from a management position at Eat'n Park, and Lisa Fergusson, former owner of the Ugly Duckling restaurant in Allegheny West. [www.Bistro-ToGo.com](http://www.Bistro-ToGo.com) To order catering now call 412-231-0218.

#### Mexican War Street House Tour

The Mexican War Streets House & Garden Tour is the oldest and finest house tour in the city of Pittsburgh, according to Tour Organizers. During the 38th annual event, held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday September 9, visitors will be treated to a leisurely self-guided tour of 14 homes throughout the historic neighborhood. Tickets are available in advance for \$18, or \$20 day of the tour at the ticket booth located on the corner of Monterey Street and West North Avenue. To purchase tickets visit, [www.mexicanwarstreets.org](http://www.mexicanwarstreets.org) or phone 412-323-9030.

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### ALCOSAN Open House

Alcosan's annual open house is Saturday September 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (rain or shine). The event is free and open to the public, featuring: hands-on activities, exhibits, games, food, see a 2,000 gallon river life aquarium and take bus tours of the 56 acre wastewater treatment facility.

For more information call 412-732-8002 or visit: [www.alcosan.org](http://www.alcosan.org).

### Mattress Factory Present India Part II

Part II of India: New Installations opens to the public with a reception Friday, September 7 from 6p.m. to 9 p.m. The exhibition runs through January 20, 2008.

The reception will feature delicious refreshments from India, as well as DJ Aly Rana spinning Indian dance in the main lobby. Mattress Factory is located at 500 Sampsonia Way. For more information call 412-231-3169 or visit [www.mattress.org](http://www.mattress.org)

### East Allegheny House Tour

Mark your calendar for Sunday, September 30th from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the Deutchtown House Tour and first ever Design Fair for Home and Garden.

The Tour will include seven unique homes built between 1867 and 2007, from historic restorations to new townhomes, and will also include gardens, art, food and more. The Fair, held in Pittsburgh's Grand Hall, next to the Priory Hotel, will include 50 local exhibitors showcasing good design in home renovation, new construction, gardens and landscapes.

Ticket prices vary: the "combo ticket" in advance for \$15 is the best deal, as are advance purchases for either event. For more information, visit [www.deutchtown.org](http://www.deutchtown.org) or call EACC offices at 412-321-1204.

### Calvary Fundraising Auction & Dinner

Top this Night, a fundraising Auction & Dinner for Calvary United Methodist Church to benefit the Ministry & Outreach programs, is Saturday, September 29, starting with a Tiffany Window Tours at 4:30 pm and Dinner at 7 pm.

Cost is \$15 for adult dinner & auction; \$5.00 auction only and \$5 for children's activities and dinner. Call 412-231-2007 for reservations.

### Welcome New NS/NSCC Members

#### Book Minders

Thomas Joseph  
1010 Western Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15233  
412-323-2665 ext. 222  
Accounting Services

#### Muriel's

Stephen R. Sherick  
856 Western Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15233  
412-322-0476  
Restaurant

#### Pittsburgh Central FCU

Michael Bollinger  
801 Vinial Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
412-322-4009  
Credit Union

## Enjoy Muriel's Eclectic Dining

Open since spring, Muriel's Restaurant has been a wonderful addition to the Historic Allegheny West Neighborhood, located at 856 Western Avenue. Described as "Eclectic Dining," in an Art Deco Atmosphere. They were voted as "Best American Restaurant" in the Post-Gazette Readers Choice Restaurant Poll.

Muriel's is open for lunch Monday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Dinner, Wednesday through Saturday from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and brunch on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. To see a complete menu go to [www.muriels.net](http://www.muriels.net) or call 412-322-0476. Take out is also available when you call ahead.



Saturday, Sept. 15, 2007

Walk for a good cause. The annual Animal Walk benefits: Animal Care and Welfare, Animal Rescue League, Western PA Humane Society, Homeless Cat Management Team, Going Home Greyhounds and The National Aviary. For a registration form call the NS/NSCC 412-231-6500. Walk registration starts at 9 am.