

GRAYS FERRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Twenty-Ninth & Dickinson Streets, Philadelphia, Pa. 19146

(215) 336-5005

GAZETTE

Published by the Grays Ferry N.A.C.

Volume XXI

June 2006

#3

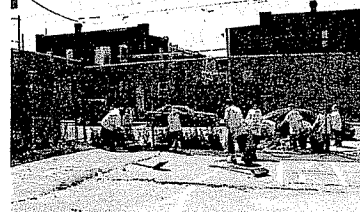
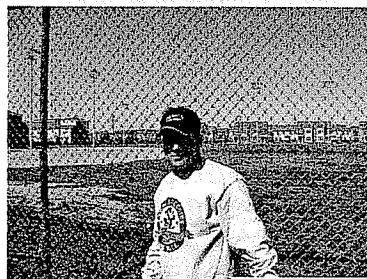
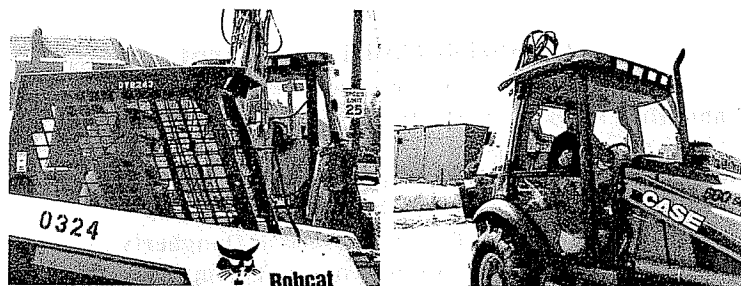
Message from the President

The summer is upon us and with the warm weather comes trouble for our community. I know the good hard working people of this community are tired and fed up of all the problems we're having. Believe me, so am I. The only way we are going to be able to change anything is by getting more involved. Any time you see something wrong you must call **911 so we have records(a DC#) of the problems.** No matter how small it is, whether it's someone smoking weed on your corner or kids throwing firecrackers, it doesn't matter, you must call the police. We have to eliminate the smaller problems so the quality of life in Grays Ferry will change for the better. **If you see something wrong report it or better yet video tape it and give it to us, no questions asked.**

On a better note I had a meeting with the recreation Commissioner Victor Richard and Council President, Anna Verna. I told them some of things we've been doing to improve Lanier,(such as cleanups, field repairs etc.). Then the commissioner hit me with a bomb shell . He told me that through the leadership and commitment of the Council President, the city will build the Grays Ferry Memorial Park for our community. Even though there's a lot of things that have to be ironed out, this news is great for our community. I want to Thank Commissioner Richard and Council President Verna for having faith in our community , we've needed it.

As you see we're working hard for this community and if you think differently take a look at yourself and ask, what have I done to make a difference in Grays Ferry and see what you come up with. **Stop talking and do something.**

Robert J. Gormley Jr.



"Grays Ferry "Spot-light"

Saints John Neumann & Maria Goretti Sports Award Banquet was held May 9th. Congratulations to **Joe Boylan** and **Meggie Chitwood**. **Joe Boylan** was inducted into the *Pirate Club Varsity Hall of Fame* for his achievement in Football. **Meggie Chitwood**, in addition to excelling academically, was named MVP for *High School Volleyball* and as always thanks to the many coaches, teachers and former athletes who continue to help shape young children academically and athletically. Special mention goes to **Carl Arrigale** and **Chip Reitano** for their role as Basketball Coach of the young men and women of **SS. John Neumann - Maria Goretti High School**

Congratulations to **Troy Lapersonerie** nominated for **Best Male Vocalist** at the "CAPPIE" Awards held at Upper Darby Performing Arts Center on June 4th. The Greater Philadelphia "CAPPIES" Gala is a black tie, red carpet event which honors high school drama students from high schools throughout the Philadelphia, suburbs and So. Jersey area. Troy attends CAPA high school and was chosen for his rendition of *The Street Where You Live* while performing in CAPA's "My Fair Lady" which was also nominated for "Best Musical".

Congratulations to **Louis Perez** from St. Gabriel's 7th Grade for receiving this year's "Christopher Brinkman Memorial Scholarship Award".

St. Gabriels Golf Tournament

Congratulations to **Joe Tolomeo, Pat Irwin, Jack Murray, and Mike Murray** for capturing the 23rd Annual St. Gabe's "Irish Open". Fifty players teed off at the FDR Golf course on Saturday, May 20th to help raise funds for the **Christopher Brinkman Memorial Scholarship, the CYO Sports Program, and the Gym Fund**. The **David Dougherty "Longest Drive Award"** was won by **Joe Tolomeo**, and the **Johnny Kop "Closest to the Pin Award"** was taken by **Larry Conway**. Congrats to both. I would like to thank all of the following sponsors for their generous support: *The Party Kitchen, Dean's Bar, Tasker Tavern, Kevin Clinton, CPA, Law offices of Clinton & McKain, Newkirk Hardware, Callahans, Portraits to Remember, Sue & Mary's Stelwagon Roofing Supplies, Uncle Tomy's Pizza, The Griffith Family, Jim O'Neill & Family, Representative Babette Josephs, Sunoco Inc, The Store, Sam's Cafe, Kampu Klothes, Dean's Sexy Bartenders, So. Phila Stringband, CWA Local 13000, The End Zone Pub, 2nd Street Irish Society, Shamrock Pub, Keenan's Irish Pub, 3T0 Electric, Sumner Financial Services, First Penn Bank, Frank Henry & Family, Cicione Beverages*. Also, a special thanks to all the participants for their support and their friendship.

George Sumner

Sports Memorabilia Auction

This event will be held On **June 11, 2006** at **Vare Recreation Center** - 26th & Morris Sts. Cost \$5.00 includes hot dog & soda - Benefit Victim / Witness Services of So. Phila. - Silent Auction 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM Live Auction 2:30pm- \$5.00.'

St. Gabriel's (So Philly) Wildwood Days Reunion

Saturday - June 24, 2006

3:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Keenan's Irish Pub - North Wildwood NJ
Tickets \$25.00 can be purchased in advance @ call (215)463-4060 or (215) 336- 3931 All proceeds will go toward St. Gabe's church & school. (Must be 21 years old)

Did You Know?

The **Chambers Family** is documented as present in Grays Ferry, since 1700, (that's 300 Years -Plus). The family is a mix of both Protestants and Catholics. Benjamin Chambers was the first! "owner" of our famous Ferry - (1700 to 1740). He sold the Ferry to George Gray in 1740. Benjamin Chambers is famous (also) as a bridge and road builder, and for constructing the famous arched road from the docks of the Delaware along "Arch" Street. He also built Pagodas and Gazebos in Fairmount Park.

John Wannamaker donated the money to build Chamber's Presbyterian Church at 28th & Morris St. and bought its Pipe Organ, the church hours one of the several ministers of the family. The Chambers family has many early city and state officials as well. They are (very likely) descendants of the American Revolution. (Mary and Sue, and their store and Chris and his business) The Chambers are still here. They are one of the oldest families of our American Revolutionary Grays Ferry. This is what I discovered from one year of intense research. This family continues to contribute to the well being of our community.

Daniel Brisbane Popovic,

Research fellow of the American Biographical Institute.

Important Numbers

Phila Corporation for Aging	215-765-9040
Narcotics Hot-line	215-685-1135
17 th Police District	215-685-3170
1 st Police District	215-686-3010
Abandoned Autos	215-685-9500
Sanitation	215-685-4290
Neighborhood Services	215-685-3096
Water Dept. Sewer Inlets	215-685-9551
Phil loans	215-854-6515
Basic systems repair	215-448-2160
Vector Control	215-685-9000
Dead Animal Removal	215-686-5560
Bulk trash	215-686-4290
Alley lighting	215-686-5515
Playstreets Permits	215-685-2726
Grays Ferry Estates	215 684-8015

Grays Ferry PEP Rally

Saturday

September 2nd 2006

3pm to 7 PM

Keenan's Irish Pub- North Wildwood
\$30.00 All proceeds profit
The William Barrett Nabuurs Center
and St. Gabriel's school.