



# North Ward News

**February 16, 2007**

Volume 1, Issue 1

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## Happy New Year 2007!

Happy New Year to all and may you experience a blessed New Year in 2007! I would like to welcome you to the first issue of my newsletter entitled the **North Ward News**. Through this medium I want to further enhance my accessibility and make it easier for information to reach from my desk to your hands! We will cover a wide range of topics that directly affect us here in the City of Newark.

This newsletter is being released in conjunction with our website located at [www.anibalramosjr.com](http://www.anibalramosjr.com) which will be up and running in the month of February 2007!

The empowerment of the residents of the City of Newark requires all of us to work together. Throughout my first six months as an elected official I've been fortunate enough to work with some excellent coalitions in identifying and resolving issues in the North Ward such as the Davenport Ave. Neighborhood Empowerment Team, Homeowner and Merchant Association, Residents for Community

Action and the North Ward Center.

We have also had a number of Safe Summer events throughout the North Ward to promote community engagement.

Our 1st Annual Halloween event was attended by over 500 kids who enjoyed pizza, music, and candy in a safe and fun environment.

Another key accomplishment was realizing the paving of one of the busiest arteries in the North Ward, Mount Prospect Avenue from Heller Parkway to Montclair Avenue. The holiday season was filled with lots of fun and goodwill as we provided a number of senior citizens with turkeys, families with food baskets and children with gifts.

With 3 1/2 years to go in this term there are a number of things I pledge to work hard to improve. Paramount amongst all is the reduction in crime and making the North Ward a safer place for all of us to live. Not only will we target major crime but also the ever important quality of life issues which



set the tone for what will no longer be tolerated in the North Ward.

I hope you enjoy our inaugural issue and I look forward to serving each and every one of you!

*Anibal Ramos Jr.*  
North Ward Councilman

## ¡Feliz Año Nuevo 2007!

Feliz Año Nuevo para todos y que tengan un año 2007 lleno de bendiciones y cosas buenas. Me gustaría traer a colación como primer punto importante de mi nuevo boletín informativo titulado "The North Ward News."

A través de este medio informativo quiero dejar claramente establecido mi accesibilidad a la comunidad y hacer que la información llegue a tus manos directamente desde mi escritorio. Estaremos además cubriendo temas abarcadores que afectan directamente nuestra comunidad y cada residente de la ciudad de Newark.

Este boletín ha sido creado en conjunto con mi nueva página "web", [www.anibalramosjr.com](http://www.anibalramosjr.com), que estará disponible para comienzos del mes de febrero 2007.

El poder de los residentes de la ciudad de Newark requiere y demanda que podamos trabajar juntos y unidos. Durante y a través de estos primeros seis (6) meses, he sido lo suficientemente afortunado de haber podido trabajar con varias organizaciones reconocidas en poder identificar y

solucionar distintas problemáticas y situaciones en el Barrio Norte. Algunas de estas organizaciones lo son, Davenport Avenue Neighborhood Empowerment Team, Homeowner and Merchant Association, Residents for Community Action y el North Ward Center.

Además hemos tenido un sinnúmero de eventos durante el pasado verano para promover la unión de nuestra comunidad. Tuvimos la oportunidad de poder celebrar el primer Festival anual del día de Halloween donde se dieron cita a dicha actividad sobre quinientos (500) niños que pudieron disfrutar de distintas amenidades, pizza, música y refrigerios en un ambiente sano, seguro y divertido.

Otro logro clave lo fue la pavimentación de una de las calles más transitadas de nuestro vecindario, que lo es la Avenida Mount Prospect, desde Heller Parkway hasta la avenida Montclair. Además durante la pasada época festiva, la misma estuvo llena de diversión y regalos; donde se le agasajó a la comunidad envejeciente

con pavos para la festividades del día de Acción de Gracias, se le entregó canastas con alimentos a las familias del Barrio Norte, así como Regalos a los niños de nuestra comunidad.

Por los próximos tres años y medio que restan del presente término hay un sinnúmero de cosas que me he comprometido a trabajar duro por ellas para así mejorar. Entre las cosas que me he empeñado en mejorar está el que la tasa del crimen disminuya para así hacer del Barrio Norte un lugar seguro donde vivir. No solo nos enfocaremos en mejorar el área del crimen, sino, que trabajaremos fuertemente por aquellos puntos y situaciones importantes que afectan nuestra calidad de vida, ya que estás permiten establecer las bases para lo no se va a tolerar más en el Barrio Norte.

Espero que hayas disfrutado de esta nuestra primera edición y espe-

*Anibal Ramos Jr.*  
Concejal del Barrio Norte

## Faces in the Community



### Michael Sweeney

Mr. Sweeney attends the North Ward Center's Casa Israel and is an avid Domino player as well as writer.

He is currently writing his memoirs about his struggles through life and how he overcame them.

## 2007 Recreational Opportunities

As we aim to make the Summer of 2007 the safest summer yet! There are a number of recreational opportunities for our children to participate in. The following is a listing of the tryout dates and contact information for many of the leagues.

### Roberto Clemente Little League

- Ages 6 to 16 at Roberto Clemente and Luis M. Lopez Field in Branch Brook Park on Lake Street and Bloomfield Avenue
- Contact Felix Padilla at: (973) 230-7951

### Just One Soccer League

- Ages 5 to 14
- Interested in being a coach?
- Contact Jesus Mercado, Jr. at: (201) 247-3161
- Visit the JOSL's website at: [www.leaguelineupjustonesoccer.com](http://www.leaguelineupjustonesoccer.com)

### North Newark Little League

- Ages 5 to 16 at Schools Stadium
- For additional information visit the NNLL's website at [www.northnewarklittleleague.com](http://www.northnewarklittleleague.com) or contact: Vincent DiVincentis 532 N. 7th Street Newark, NJ 07107

### North Ward Center Little League Baseball & Softball

- Ages 5 to 16 at Jerry Greco Field in Branch Brook Park on Lake Street and Bloomfield Avenue.
- Contact Rashard Casey or Gerard Marchese at: (973) 481-0415



### North Ward Pop Warner Football

- Ages 9 to 14 @ Branch Brook Park on Lake Street and Bloomfield Avenue
- Contact Donnell Redding at: (973) 733-6454



## Working Together During a Difficult Time

During the Summer of 2006 the City of Newark was faced with a serious crisis and was challenged to confront the loss of an historic school building due fire. Elliott Street School was home to many North Warders, including Councilman Anibal Ramos, Jr. This difficult situation sparked the quick response and rapid work of many of our locals leaders.

Immediately, Councilman Ramos contacted the leadership at Our Lady of Good Counsel to begin the discussion of using available space at the high school. Thanks to Father Luis Gonzalez most of the Elliott St. School family had a new home in

the same neighborhood of their old home school.

A few students were relocated to nearby St. Anthony's church. Councilman Ramos said, "I'm just glad that the resources were there to provide a seamless transition for our children to continue their education. Unfortunately my alma mater is in need of repair. Our Lady of Good Counsel had closed the doors to their High School but in the process opened up a safe haven for the victims of the fire, our students and dedicated teachers. I would like to thank Father Gonzalez and the entire parish for their generosity in this time of duress."



## Mount Prospect Avenue Streetscape

For many years, Mount Prospect Avenue, which serves as a major business and residential zone in the North Ward, has been in serious need of paving and construction. The Avenue houses a strong business community, a fire house and major residential homes and buildings. Every day thousands of individuals travel along Mount Prospect Avenue to buy groceries, get their hair done and conduct other types of business.

Through the joint leadership efforts of Councilman Ramos and Mayor Booker, they identified some emergency dollars to pave the Avenue between Heller Parkway and Montclair Avenue. These blocks represented the area which was in greatest need of street paving along the Avenue.

More importantly, the Streetscape Project slated for Mount Prospect Avenue was recently changed to free up additional resources which will be used to

pave other areas along Mount Prospect Avenue as far down as Montclair Avenue.





## 1st Annual Halloween Festivities!

This past Halloween we enjoyed our 1st Annual Halloween event at the Four Diamonds parking lot in Branch Brook Park. A joint venture with Council members At-Large Mildred Crump, Donald Payne, Jr. and Carlos M. Gonzalez, provided a safe and fun environment for families and children of all ages to enjoy!

There was a DJ providing great fun music and there was free pizza and drinks for everyone!

Councilman Ramos said, "This was a great collaboration that brought about the best in our community. Whereas Halloween has been stigmatized as an event our kids in Newark cannot

truly enjoy, we were able to provide a safe friendly environment that would make Halloween fun again for our children."

Over 500 children attended this fun packed event and the Council members look forward to making it bigger and better experience next year!



## Safe Summer Activities

The Summer of 2006 was filled with fun activities throughout the entire North Ward. The City of Newark sponsored a number of events, with Newark Now and North Ward Councilman Anibal Ramos, Jr., where kids and adults alike had a chance to enjoy a little fun in the sun right in the North Ward's backyard.

Each event had a live DJ playing great music and the food was cooked on site barbecue style! Aside from the bur-

gers and hot dogs there was popcorn, cotton candy, fresh donuts made on the spot, and shaved ices in many flavors for everyone to cool off with!

There were also a number of attractions for everyone to enjoy such as face painters, basketball games, moonbounces, dance contests and a nice cool dunk tank!

Events were held throughout the North Ward including Stephen Crane Village, Davenport and Grafton Avenues!



## Holiday Events

Councilman Anibal Ramos, Jr. delivered over 600 turkeys to families throughout the North Ward for Thanksgiving. Aside from delivering to needy families, Councilman Ramos also delivered turkeys to senior citizens.

Christmas was also felt throughout the North Ward as Councilman Ramos gave out food baskets highlighted by a wonderful holiday dinner held at Immaculate Conception Church. Over 200 children received gifts and every family

received a food basket healthy with enough to ensure a fruitful holiday dinner! A special THANK YOU goes out to all the Parent Liaisons of SLT IV who made this event a success and provided holiday cheer and goodwill!





**Anibal Ramos Jr.**

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**Donna Nolen**

Legislative Aide

**Joaquin Caceres**

Legislative Aide

**Dennis Tassie**

Volunteer  
Legislative Aide

**City of Newark Mini-Directory**

- (973) 733-6000 Police 911 Non-Emergency Line
- (973) 733-6000 North Ward Police Precinct
- (973) 733-6294 Animal Control
- (973) 733-6471 Code Enforcement
- (973) 733-7400 Fire Department
- (973) 733-7600 Health and Human Services
- (973) 733-6400 Mayor's Office
- (973) 733-8500 MOET
- (973) 733-5378 Neighborhood and Recreational Services
- (973) 733-6390 Permits
- (973) 733-6183 Traffic and Signals
- (973) 424-1854 Trees
- (973) 733-3655 Water and Sewer
- (973) 733-3000 Welfare

**Anibal Ramos Jr.**

North Ward Councilman  
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