

THE GATEWAY

WINTER 2007

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Word from the Chairman, Nehemiah CDC



BRITT A. STARGHILL,
CHAIRMAN NPCDC

Some of the most significant elements shaping this generation's history are the character, culture and destiny of our youth. We are responsible for providing fertile ground for the generation of young people we now have in our congregation; furthermore we are obligated to plant trees for which shade nor fruit we are not expecting benefits. We must give a new generation that is young and unborn the tools to work. We should be providing for them an environment that is conducive for making sure Kaighn Avenue is strong in perpetuity.

We must forge a path and plant new trees, by not being "selfish"

Partnering for the Future

The Nehemiah Project Community Development Corporation (NPCDC) has bold ambitions for the neighborhood surrounding the Kaighn Avenue Baptist Church. To achieve these goals the NPCDC is beginning to forge partnerships with local stakeholders including local officials, businesses, institutions and government agencies who have a stake in this community and Camden as a whole. Implementing the long term vision of the NPCDC will require the coordination and participation of these partners. While some of these partnerships may result in crucial tenant commitments for building space others may provide the opportunity for resource sharing and community

rather being selfless in planning and preparation for a generation whose spirituality must be affirmed as the unique people God made them.

Additionally, this effort must be accompanied with prayer and preparation. Our children's viability rest on the framework of us synthesizing our riveting history with a provocative future. There is no way we could really celebrate our history without properly preparing our children to have all the necessary tools for a strong future.

Thus, we are called upon to invest, take risk with faith, save money, build buildings, create an endowment, and most importantly to train them to replace the spiritual giants who started this church over 150 years ago. Such a great challenge calls for effective change and prayer to make this process of "tree planting" (or investing in our best asset) our children.

I have asked specifically that we focus our thoughts and prayers on the young people in our lives. Some are children, grandchildren,

great grandchildren; others could be neighbor, nephews or nieces, family friends or simply young people for whom members of this church know and love. Can you imagine what a great witness it will be for those children to grow up and see we were thinking of them? The greatest witness we could give our progeny would be to leave a tree for both refreshment and shade.

Let us mark this great campaign with making an indelible mark of building and planting an oasis where God has stationed us. Join me, for it is time to make a difference! We are called to make "The Nehemiah Vision" more than a dream.

As it states in scripture:

"...and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this"

Esther 4:14

Again we are called upon to plant a tree in this community.

Remember this, only what you do for Christ will last!

services. Over the past few the NPCDC months has reached out to the following stakeholders:

- * Hopeworks n' Camden
- * Coopers Ferry Development Association
- * School District of Camden
- * Camden Police Dept.
- * Cooper Univ. Hospital
- * Rutgers Camden
- * CamConnect
- * NJ Economic Development Authority
- * Our Lady of Lourdes

Of course these are just a few of potential partners in Camden. The importance of these agencies partnering to work towards the same goal cannot be stressed enough.

The NPCDC has also been

working closely with local, state and federal elected officials; including the support of US Rep. Rob Andrews and newly elected State Rep. Dana Redd. This has been particularly helpful in establishing credibility in our neighborhood and beyond.

However in the end the most important partner will be the community itself. Without the support, effort and leadership of community members the project and community is not viable. Continue to look for ways that **YOU** can make a difference.

Please visit us at:
www.nehemiahcdc.org

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ◆ Partnering for the future...find out with who!
- ◆ Dr. Norman engaged for crucial fundraising campaign
- ◆ Nehemiah weekend a big hit!
- ◆ One of Camden's finest public servants honored at KABC.
- ◆ Presidential hopeful has electric rally at KABC



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Helping to Make it Happen: Meet NPCDC the Board



STACY L. ROBINSON

Stacy L. Robinson has 15+ years in the financial services industry and spent the last 8+ years with Morgan Stanley, one of the worlds premier financial services firms. With Morgan Stanley she provides investment planning and business solutions for high net worth individuals and organizations. Stacy is a former member of Virtua Health Systems Board of trustees serves as a member of their investment and finance committee. She has also served on the steering committee of a City Philadelphia Councilwoman and was a member of the Philadelphia Dance company training Company where she was also a former dance teacher. She holds a series 7, 63, 65 and 31 and is a graduate of Rutgers University, New Brunswick New Jersey with a BA in Economics.

CHARLES HOLMES

Charles Holmes is a partner with Milligan and Company, responsible for the Assurance Services department which conducts the firms audits and assurance engagements. Mr. Holmes also conduct seminars throughout the country on financial reporting and risk assessment best practices for Chief Financial Officers, Finance Directors, Controllers and other finance professionals employed by Federal government agencies. Charles has 20 years experience and prior to joining Milligan & Company in 1992, Charles worked in the Audit Department of PricewaterhouseCoopers in their Philadelphia Office. Mr. Holmes is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) licensed in PA and NJ, a member of American and PA Institute of CPA's and holds series 7 and 63 securities licenses. Charles graduated from Drexel in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting.



PRESTON BECKLEY III

Preston Beckley III is the Founder and Managing Director of Career Success LLC, a Human Resource consulting firm that specializes in providing individuals and organizations with business, management, and workforce solutions that will maximize revenues, increase productivity, reduce costs, and improve customer satisfaction. Throughout his career, Mr. Beckley has gained a reputation for turning around under-performing organizations and teams through outstanding leadership, training & development, coaching, and mentoring. Mr. Beckley holds a BA in Psychology from the University of Wisconsin and has attended Advanced Management Programs in Global Management and World Class Competitiveness at Northwestern's Kellogg Graduate School of Management and Duke's Fuqua School of Business. He is the father of three adult children.



LYNDA MCCOLLUM

Lynda McCollum-Hall is the owner and Chief Executive Officer of McCollum Insurance, Abstract & Title Agency. She is a licensed insurance producer and title agent for the states of New Jersey and Pennsylvania. In addition, Mrs. McCollum-Hall has involvement in many civic and community endeavors. The McCollum Agency has performed title work on many projects in completion, as well as in the planning or construction phase, throughout the State of New Jersey. Mrs. McCollum-Hall resides in Sicklerville, New Jersey, with her husband, Sid Hall, a Sales Representative for Weichert Realtors, and their son, Jordan Hall (3). Jordan was their miracle baby, born four months prematurely at Cooper Hospital, at just one pound, nine ounces.

HILARY DUGGER COLBERT

Hilary Dugger Colbert is the Director of Planning and Research at the Community Planning and Advocacy Council (CPAC). A graduate of Howard University with a BA in English, Hilary worked for a number of years as a legal secretary in Washington, DC before moving to South Jersey and earning her MPA from Rutgers-Camden. For the past 15 years Hilary has worked in a number of health and human services planning positions including Health Visions, Inc. (a subsidiary of CPAC) where she served as local evaluator for the Camden City Healthy Start project and worked on a number of regional health planning projects. She then worked at Virtua West Jersey Camden for 4 years before returning to CPAC in 2003 in her current role. Hilary and her husband Tony reside in Sicklerville, NJ.

DARWIN I. GIBSON

Darwin I. Gibson Darwin has 20+ years of Sales & Marketing experience in the Pharmaceutical and Consumer Product Areas. Darwin currently works for Ortho-McNeil Inc., a division of Johnson & Johnson, where he is responsible for leading a sales organization within the South Central United States with annual sales of over \$500MM. Mr. Gibson will assist the CDC in their efforts to market and gain support for the vital projects that will critical to the organizations growth.

We Need Your Help Too!

The Nehemiah Project CDC is a community initiative that will require a collaborative community effort. While the NPCDC and its board is working hard to champion change, it will take strong community leadership become a viable and sustainable neighborhood. Please contact the NPCDC if you are interested in board membership or helping to build your community!

info@nehemiahcdc.org

NPCDC Moves into Building Design Phase

Over the last year the NPCDC has worked hard to meet important benchmarks in the Family Life Center development process. Some of these include the acquisition of land; ensuring compliance with planning and zoning requirements; the development of tenant partnerships; and focused fund-raising campaigns.

The time has finally come to begin designing the building! This will

include the layout and amenities of the Family Life Center building. The design process will ultimately decide the look and feel of the building and the following will need to be taken into consideration:

- * Desired Uses
- * Floor plan/Layout
- * Tenant Commitments

(continued on pg. 4)

- * Maximization of Space
- * Sustainable Design Standards

Kalgin Avenue Baptist Church
Massing Studies 6.16.2008
08 Aerial Perspective



EARLY COMPUTER MODEL OF FAMILY LIFE CENTER

...WE NEED THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL PEOPLE TO "REBUILD THE WALLS" OF THIS COMMUNITY...





Generis Engaged to Lead Fundraising Campaign at KABC

The Kaighn Avenue Baptist Church and Nehemiah Project have engaged Dr. Herman Norman of Generis Partners to embark upon an intense fundraising campaign.

The process of building community has been described as being “multi pronged”. With that being there are a number of factors that need to work together in order to achieve success. One of these factors is raising the initial capital needed to begin to build. While Camden business leaders, philanthropist organizations, and other outside donors must play a role in the fundraising process the heart of the fundraising process must start here.

Generis Partners has utilized Lifestyle Stewardship to help churches across the nation generate abundant spiritual and financial outcomes. Dr. Herman Norman will lead a campaign that will begin with an intense four

month program involving training and commitment from congregation leaders. Dr. Norman will continue to be involved with the process for 36 months however KABC will be left with the tools to continue this approach into the foreseeable future. The Generis approach involves a series of spiritual challenges where church members will reassess their material priorities, thus discovering how these resources may be redirected to serve God’s highest work.

The campaign itself will require the participation and dedication of many from the congregation. The initial process will focus on the goal of raising the necessary funding to build the Family Life Center, however it will not end there.

Dr. Norman has distinguished himself throughout a professional career that spans more than 40 years. After earning his doctorate

in education from Indiana University, he served 13 years as a university professor and administrator. A career military officer, he retired at the rank of commander, U.S. Naval Reserves, after 21 years of service. Dr. Norman also established his own financial services company before taking on church fundraising and ultimately joining Generis in 1991. Dr. Norman has led successful campaigns across the country including; Faith Tabernacle Baptist in Chicago; Oasis of Hope Baptist in Indianapolis; and Union Baptist in Stamford, CT. Dr. Norman now makes his home in Atlanta, GA and is married to the former Thena Monts Durham of Atlanta. They have five children.

Please look out for important updates regarding this important campaign.



DR. HERMAN NORMAN WILL SERVE AS THE LEAD CONSULTANT IN THE UPCOMING CAMPAIGN AT KAIGHN AVENUE

A Great Public Servant Takes on a New Role

January 13th, 2008 Kaighn Avenue Baptist— After a sweeping election victory in November, former City Councilwoman, was inaugurated to her new NJ State Senate position at Kaighn Avenue Baptist Church. Following an uplifting service by Rev. Britt Starghill; local, state and federal leaders lauded Senator Redd’s dedication to service and specifically the City of Camden. Sen. Redd a native of Camden has dedicated the larger part of her life to service and vowed to continue to do so as a state lawmaker. Redd who will represent New Jersey’s 5th District was quoted as saying “As a lifelong resident of Camden, I have a special place in my heart for this area and it helped make

me the woman I am today. I am reminded of a statement my parents made years ago about how I should remain in Camden because it is going to experience a renaissance”. County Clerk James Beach served as the master of ceremonies. Among those attending were local mayors and councilman, U.S. Rep. Rob Andrews, New Jersey Senate Majority Leader Stephen Sweeney, and NJ Speaker of the House Joe Roberts all of whom extol Redd’s achievements. Camden is blessed to have someone as passionate as Redd fighting for them at the State level. Good luck to State Senator Dana Redd. For more information please visit: www.danaredd.com—



NEWLY ELECTED NJ STATE SENATOR DANA L. REDD

“...REBUILDING COMMUNITY IS A LONG AND ARDUOUS TASK THAT WILL REQUIRE THE FAITH AND HARD WORK OF ALL THOSE INVOLVED. “

NEHEMIAH COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

POVERTY RATE: 33%

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA: 41%

COLLEGE DEGREE: 9.6%

UNEMPLOYMENT: 26%

source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

THIS MUST CHANGE DRASTICALLY FOR THIS COMMUNITY TO REBUILD!



**QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NEHEMIAH
PROJECT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

WE ARE NOW ON THE
WEB!

VISIT US ON OUR NEW
WEBSITE FOR IMPORTANT
UPDATES, EVENTS, AND
INFORMATION ON HOW
YOU CAN HELP!

WWW.NEHEMIAHCDC.ORG

Presidential Candidate Brings Momentum to KABC



**STATE SEN. JOHN ADLER STUMPS
FOR BARACK OBAMA AT KABC**

Following an impressive victory in the Democratic Iowa Caucus, presidential candidate Illinois Senator Barack Obama, looked to keep the momentum going with statewide rallies at key New Jersey locations. The Obama campaign team brought their message of hope and change to Kaighn Avenue Baptist Church. A full house listened intently as State Senator John Adler and City Councilman Gilbert "Whip" Wilson and other local leaders who attended the rally voiced their support of Obama in a show of unity which was the

prevailing message of the event. In an election that will take place during a time of war and an unsure economic outlook the message of change has become a favorite campaign buzzword, but serves as a platform for Senator Obama. With the election still ten months away there is a long road ahead. Whichever candidate comes out of the process public interest in the process seems to be on the rise and each and every vote counts. For information on the Barack Obama campaign please visit: <http://www.barackobama.com>



**SEN. OBAMA - REV. STARGHILL
AND FAMILY AT KABC AT 2006**



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The Nehemiah Project Community Development Corporation (NPCDC) is a certified 501(c) (3) non-profit organization located in the Gateway neighborhood of Camden, New Jersey. The explicit purpose of the NPCDC is to promote the holistic revitalization of the community surrounding the Kaighn Avenue Baptist Church

Design (from pg. 2)

- * Aesthetics/Landscaping
- * Parking and access
- * Amenities

While building characteristics can be modified throughout the process, decisions on the building layout and uses should begin now. A state of the art building will serve the KABC and the community while attracting high end tenants. Please check our website for the most recent updates!

Giving Made Easy!

We often hear the question How and manage all their charitable Can I Help? As part of a con- involvement. Through the tinuous effort to streamline the GivingStation, a donor may fundraising process, participate in a company's Nehemiah Project Community workplace giving, matching-gift Development Corporation is now and/or volunteer programs. registered with the GivingStation If you are interested in learning Program. GivingStation® is an more about the GivingStation online employee engagement please visit the NPCDC website platform that allows donors to at: support nonprofit organizations www.nehemiahcdc.org

Nehemiah Weekend Builds Hope, Excitement...

While writing the Fall issue of the Gateway, the NPCDC was preparing a presentation for the Nehemiah Weekend Event at Kaighn Avenue Baptist Church (KABC). On the weekend of October 19-21st members of the KABC congregation were invited to participate in a weekend of education, hope and community. Speakers were invited from across the country to share their similar experiences in urban community revitalization and leadership. Rev. Dr. William Lawson from Houston attested to how his ministry in Houston's infamous 5th Ward was able to lead a community movement and successfully secure a major grocery store (something Camden lacks). Dr. Lawson preached persistence and faith to the Saturday attendees. Following the

presentation by Dr. Lawson, attendees were given a presentation on the Nehemiah Project aimed to present a clear and consistent message to the congregation. Shawn Brede, a consultant from CHPlanning, discussed the Nehemiah Project's vision, mission and goals for rebuilding the community around KABC. The focus was on building capacity in order to sustain a viable community. It was noted that while much of the immediate focus has been on the construction of the Family Life Center, this important community anchor can not stand on its own. The community needs "tax ratable" or income generating properties along with improved education and opportunities be resurrected from the years of decay and neglect. The weekend was completed with

the honorable Mayor Cory Booker of Newark, New Jersey addressing the congregation. Mayor Booker, recently profiled on TV's 60 Minutes, discussed his struggle bringing change in New Jersey's largest city where urban blight has long been entrenched and distrust is common. After only a year and a half in office the former Rhodes Scholar has had to deal with a deep seated mistrust of outsiders and "fear of change" in the city. Through this adversity, Mayor Booker has found strength and progress has been made. The Nehemiah weekend carried the message that rebuilding community is a long and arduous task that will require the faith and hard work of all those involved.

