

Community Councils Center  
Mountain View Community Council  
3350 Commercial Drive, Ste. #230  
Anchorage AK 99501-3077  
~Citizens Building Better Neighborhoods~

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U S POSTAGE PAID  
Anchorage AK  
PERMIT #502

THIS NEWSLETTER WAS PAID FOR BY A GRANT FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

## September 2008 Mountain View Community Council News

Mountain View Community Center  
315 North Price Street  
September 8, 2008

### 7:00 Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance  
Approval of June Minutes  
Approval of Treasurer's Report  
Approval of September Agenda  
Introductions

### 7:20 Reports and Announcements

Assembly Report - Patrick Flynn  
Legislative Report - Sen. Wielechowski/Rep. Gruenberg  
APD Report- Sgt. Denny Allen  
Written Reports- Community Center, Mountain View Patrol,  
Job Center, Crime Committee, Code Enforcement,  
Neighborhood Plan, Other prepared by Amy Grant, ACLT



### Guest Speakers for September 8, 2008:

- 8:00 Credit Union 1- Leslie Ellis
- 8:10 MV Neighborhood Plan Status- Agnew Beck
- 8:20 ACLT Update- Jewel Jones
- 8:30 B and G Club- David Barney
- 8:40 MV Library Update - Rachel Rogers
- 8:50 Nominations and Elections- 2009 MVCC Officers
- 9:00 Parks and Recreation- Teri Peters
- 9:10 Old Business/New Business

**Next Council Executive Meeting**  
**Tuesday, September 30, 2008 at 5:30 PM**  
**Anchorage Community Land Trust Building**  
**This is an open meeting - You are welcome**

## A Problem with Social Service Work in Mountain View

Hugh Wade, MVCC Vice President

Hello, I'm Hugh Wade, former President of the MVCC, and current outgoing vice president. It's been a pleasure working as an officer for the community. I'm still committed, but with the care of my beautiful, almost year-old daughter, Kyla Mae, the battle for time between her and everything else has resulted in other work losing, including my service as an officer for our council. I plan on remaining active, and picking my spots, schedule-permitting.

I was invited to write a little piece about Mountain View themes, context, and philosophy, as I see it, as so much is lost in the hubbub of our monthly council meetings.

### Perspective on Non-Profit Housing: It ain't all good.

Here's a couple of truisms about our community, where we are going, and where we should be going, in my humble opinion:

- 1.) The community was screwed-over a long time ago by city officials who allowed high-density rental units. This decision lent itself to sideways four-plexes, renters of last-resort, and slumlords.
- 2.) The concentration of poverty, and the economics of that poverty, has essentially made our neighborhood popular for non-profits, such as Cook Inlet Housing, Cook Inlet Tribal Council and Chanlyut, Habitat for Humanity, Success by Six, RuralCap, Homeward Bound, etc.
- 3.) While each of these programs has its merits, the overall affect has been to re-affirm poverty, rather than fight it, as they often involve give-aways and concentrations of citizens who are poor, dysfunctional, and criminal -- all in the same neighborhood.

*(continues on next page)*

**Thank you to our donors!** The Mountain View Community Council and all its members would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks for your contribution. Citizens like yourself make a big difference in our community. We need more people like you!

Name of Donor \_\_\_\_\_

Your donation in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
is Tax Deductible. Thank you so much!

Received by Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date received by Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_

MOUNTAIN VIEW COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
1989 USA NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE YEAR  
President: Don Crandall 272-8088  
Treasurer: Niki Burrows 274-1179  
Mountain View Patrol: 223-9524



### Here's my donation to the MVCC

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- |                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| \$ _____ <b>As Needed</b>  | \$ _____ COPIER NEEDED    |
| \$ _____ Patrol Account    | \$ _____ Awards           |
| \$ _____ Office Supplies   | \$ _____ July 4th Picnic  |
| \$ _____ Computer Supplies | \$ _____ Sunshine Account |
| \$ _____ Phone             | \$ _____ Clean Up         |

**Mail your donation to:** Mountain View Community Council,  
PO Box 142824, Anchorage, AK 99514 • Thank you so much!

## President's Message

### Don Crandall, MVCC President

As a homeowner who has found Mountain View to be a livable community, I need to take the opposite side of Hugh's thoughts on pages 2 and 3. If you attended any part of National Night Out (*which is featured in Glenn Howson's photo display on pages 4 and 5*), you know this is a place of great, safe activity.

As you can see in the pictures, Mountain View is a joyous spot for many people. It is a great mix of interesting personalities and peoples, and it is a part of Anchorage where people can breathe freely. Just ask Claude Mabudu and his wife and children who were featured in an article prepared by Catholic Social Service entitled "Liberty is an Amazing Feeling." They are among the citizens who have found a comfortable home in our community and are now contributing to the effort to make it better for us all.

We do the most ambitious community clean-up in Anchorage, we have the original community patrol, we are blessed with grant programs such as Mountain View Weed 'n Seed, we are in the process of having 8% of our housing stock replaced by Cook Inlet and by Habitat for Humanity, we have extra policing this year, we have the refurbished Mountain View Drive, we have our Natural History Museum, we have our new library, we have our forthcoming community art center, we're getting a bank!, we have better mobility with the Glenn-Bragaw project, we have ACLT supporting our community efforts, we have our own Job Center, we have two elementary schools which have been rated as Distinguished Title I schools in the past seven years, we have a brand new middle school going up, *and we have you, the reader of this newsletter. You are part of our community Renaissance. Thanks to you, our community works!*

#### Groundbreaking Ceremony and Celebration for Credit Union One

Possibly the most significant economic event in our community in 30 years is the establishment of a branch of Credit Union One, the first financial institution in Mountain View since Alaska State Bank closed. Credit Union One is also donating an 840 square foot space for a Police Substation and will train one of its security cameras on the intersection. Security and financial stability- a great combination! **Come to the ceremony Friday, September 12 at 1 P.M. at the corner of Mountain View Drive and Bragaw Street!**

(continued from page 3)

- 4.) Gentrification is not a nasty word, and from a resident's perspective, actually should be encouraged, as it would mean a more affluent neighborhood, with more upstanding citizen's around, and a lot less no-accounts, sex-offenders, drug and alcohol abusers, prostitutes, and criminals of all types. (Hey, I could go for a little bit of that gentrification-action, baby, if that's what it means.)

For a long time, I have been taking walks in our neighborhood almost every evening, with Kyla Mae riding along in a baby sling. For a long time, I have been passing a four-plex that is clearly program housing. As someone who knows a fair amount about our neighborhood, I was surprised at this particular building's existence, and that I didn't know what it was about.

On May 21, 2008, there was an article in the ADN about the schizophrenic murderer Brian Dussault, and whether to release him from API, and, if he was released, where to allow him to live (i.e., an assisted living home.) The article says:

"He could live in an assisted living facility in Mountain View that now houses mainly sex offenders recently out of prison, under the plan reluctantly fashioned by API."

Guess what, folks: The house described above is the house Kyla Mae and I have been passing on our walks, and I never knew it. Most of our community doesn't even know it's there, nor did we have any say in its placement here.

This community, because of it's history, and not really by choice in a lot of circumstances, has been more-than-generous in reaching out and welcoming non-profits, and their programs. However, that stance has long been past the point of diminishing return, and we should think seriously about encouraging or generally accepting further non-profit expansion in Mountain View.

Thanks for reading, and allowing me to express myself. --Hugh Wade

# National Night Out

Photos courtesy of Glenn Howson



Will he get soaked? Depends on your aim.



We had a great turn-out



Akeela House



The pony cart was hooked up



Cotton candy was one of the treats



Friends are good to have



Ready... aim... fire! Target store staff were great



C.W. Floyd (right) chats with Chief Rob Huen, while McGruff the crime dog looks on.



Plenty of food, games, and face paint



The Anchorage Police Department set up a table



Pony rides