



A Newsletter from the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development

Neighborhood Stabilization

On March 10, 2009, the City of Chattanooga was awarded \$2,113,727 in federal funds under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). Established through Title III of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, the Neighborhood Stabilization Program was created to address the series of problems arising from the significant number of foreclosed homes; such as property value loss, increase in incidents of blight and crime due to vacant and abandoned foreclosed properties, and the shrinking availability of financing. The funding can be used for activities designed to stabilize communities, including:

- Establishing land banks for foreclosed homes;
- Redeveloping demolished or vacant properties;
- Demolishing blighted structures;
- Purchasing and rehabilitating residential properties foreclosed upon or abandoned;
- Establishing financing mechanisms for purchase and redevelopment of foreclosed residential properties.

Funds cannot be used for foreclosure prevention or pay mortgages in arrears.

Communities receiving the funds are required to use them in "areas of greatest need" as defined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidelines. Using data provided by HUD specifically for this program, it was determined that these areas are located in South and East Chattanooga. High numbers of foreclosures, sub-prime mortgages and vacant/abandoned properties



**Neighborhood Stabilization Program
Community Meeting
Bessie Smith Hall
August 27, 2009 • 6:00 p.m.
Open to the Public**

were all factors used in defining an "area of greatest need."

The overall objective of the program is to use NSP funding to leverage private and other sources to positively affect neighborhood market conditions, thereby stabilizing housing values and improving neighborhood conditions. The funds must be spent quickly and in an effective and efficient manner. The City has approximately 15 months to commit the funds, but wants to be sure that they are spent in ways and areas that provide the greatest impact.

To assist with this effort, a consultant, Asset Property Disposition, Inc. has been procured to develop an implementation plan. A community meeting is scheduled for August 27, 6:00 p.m. at Bessie Smith Hall to give the consultants an opportunity to get input from the community.

"Building Better Neighborhoods... Block By Block"

COMMON GROUND



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Neighborhood Services and Community Development

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Beverly P. Johnson, Administrator

Administrator's Letter

We are constantly striving to revitalize our neighborhoods using our own resources as well as those from other entities. On August 27, the City will host a community meeting to obtain input from citizens to help select neighborhoods to target funds for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (see cover story). This is a great opportunity for citizens to participate in recommending where these particular stimulus funds should be spent.

On the city level, the Neighborhood Partners Program provides funding to neighborhood associations for

community improvements. While municipal budgets tighten, this is still a viable program that allows local groups to focus on small revitalization projects that enhance their respective neighborhoods. You should not miss this chance to apply for funding for a neighborhood project.

Each year we celebrate National Night Out. This is an opportunity for residents and city representatives to come together to celebrate safe neighborhoods. This year's event takes place August 4. The mayor, police and fire department personnel as well as representatives from our department will be making the rounds to visit over 25 planned events throughout the city.

It is constant, sometimes tedious, and always challenging to coordinate the many programs that fall under our responsibility; yet the benefits are certainly worth it. Our reward is the feedback we get from you, the citizens, and seeing the improvements that are made, block by block.



Changing The World - **WORLD CHANGERS** One House at A Time

by Jill Black, Neighborhood Program Specialist

2009 marks the 7th year that Chattanooga has been chosen by the World Changers organization as a project city, and our fair city is much better for it. World Changers is a ministry of the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Since 1990, World Changers has provided free home repair to senior citizens and others in need who lack the resources to maintain their homes, while providing youth volunteers with the opportunity to serve others in the mission experience. Through an ongoing partnership with the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development that provides federal funding for the materials, homeowners that qualify receive completely free home repair.

Each year the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development accepts and screens applications from resident homeowners across the city. Homeowners must meet certain guidelines to qualify for the program. Local World Changers volunteers then visit qualified homeowners to examine the repairs needed to determine if it is appropriate for youth labor and can be completed during the short project period.

The 2009 Chattanooga World Changers project brought over 850 adult and youth volunteers from cities around the country into our city to repair 42 homes over two weeks. Youth volunteers were able to provide repairs ranging from exterior work such as scraping, painting, porch repair and handicap ramp building to interior work such as framing handicap accessible doors, floor repair and painting. At the completion of this year's project, World Changers will have repaired 250 homes in Chattanooga over seven years!

This year's theme for the World Changers project is "Set Apart," which their service to persons in need certainly does help them to stand out from the crowd. Mayor Ron Littlefield recognized the service of the World Changer organization, and concurred with the theme of the project, by proclaiming July 20-31, 2009 as World Changer Home Repair Weeks in the City of Chattanooga.



Neighborhood Partners Project Applications Now Being Accepted

The City of Chattanooga Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development announces the availability of funding for the Neighborhood Partners Program. In keeping with Mayor Ron Littlefield's commitment to "nourish neighborhoods," limited funding is available for projects that focus on neighborhood development and beautification efforts. Proposed projects must demonstrate civic participation and create community-based solutions that will substantially improve neighborhoods as well as nurture relationships among neighbors. Eligible projects include neighborhood banners, neighborhood newsletters, literacy programs, clean-ups, landscaping and much more.

Neighborhood associations and civic organizations located within the Chattanooga City limits are eligible to apply for these highly competitive funds. Projects will be evaluated by an independent selection committee based on a point system and the following criteria: capacity, impact, implementation/evaluation, and sustainability.

Applicants must attend a technical assistance workshop in order to be eligible for funds (see ad below). All workshops will be held at City Hall in the 3rd floor training room.

Guidelines and applications are available at the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development on the 2nd Floor of City Hall or online at www.chattanooga.gov/Neighborhood_Services. The application deadline is Friday, September 25 at 4 p.m. For more information, contact Donna Deweese at 425-3718 or deweese_d@mail.chattanooga.gov. Don't let your neighborhood miss out on this opportunity. Get your association together and develop a proposal and submit your application as soon as possible.

National Night Out

The 26th Annual National Night Out will be celebrated in neighborhoods throughout Chattanooga and across the country on Tuesday, August 4. National Night Out is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Along with the traditional display of outdoor lights and front porch vigils, cities, towns and neighborhoods 'celebrate' National Night Out with a variety of events and activities such as block parties, cookouts and visits from local police and sheriff departments.

The Kick-Off event for National Night Out in Chattanooga will be hosted this year by Southside Cowart Place Neighborhood Association. In addition to music, food, games and door prizes, there will be a dog contest with prizes for the ugliest, cutest and friendliest pups. Mayor Littlefield, police officers and firefighters will be in attendance. The Kick-Off event will be held at the water tower adjacent to Battle Academy from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Bring your chairs and blankets to listen to the music and have some fun!

Save The Dates



Technical Assistance Workshops

Applicants for the Neighborhood Partners Program must attend one of the following workshops to be eligible for funding:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Thursday, August 20 | 10 a.m. |
| Thursday, August 20 | 6 p.m. |
| Thursday, September 10 | 10 a.m. |
| Thursday, September 17 | 6 p.m. |

All workshops will be held at City Hall
101 East 11th Street, 3rd floor Training Room

Application Deadline:
4:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 25, 2009

Call (423) 425-3700 for more information

Neighborly News from...



Sweet Diversity
Celebrating Culture and Community In Our Neighborhood

Sweet Diversity is a free multicultural community experience featuring the crafts, entertainers and desserts from the many cultures in each City Council District.

All events are from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

District 5
Thursday, August 27 Brainerd Recreation Center
1010 N. Moore Rd.

District 4
Thursday, September 17 Heritage House
1428 Jenkins Road

Districts 2 & 3
Thursday, October 15 North River Civic Center
1009 Executive Drive

Please contact the Office of Multicultural Affairs
with any questions
(423) 643-6706 or OMA@mail.chattanooga.gov

Chattanooga Police Interactive Committee (CPIC)



CPIC meetings are designed for the citizens, community groups and the Police Department to work together on issues of concern and better understand what can be done and how to do it.

Come be a part of the solution for Sector III. Sector III is the area from the Chickamauga Dam South to the county line, 58 Hwy north to the county line and from Missionary Ridge east to the county line and out to the East Ridge city limit and the Georgia line. (Brainerd, East Brainerd, Ooltewah, Tunnel Blvd, 58 Hwy, and the East side of Missionary Ridge). Sector III contains Council Districts 4, 5, 6 along with parts of 3 & 9.

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at Shepherd Recreation Center, 2124 Shepherd Road, just off Hwy 153. For more information, contact Capt. Randy W. Dunn, Sector III Commander, Patrol Division, Chattanooga Police Department 643-5211 or dunn_r@chattanooga.gov.

Forest Plaza Neighborhood Association

*by Debbie Johnson
Neighborhood Relations Specialist*

Nestled off Norcross road lies a community know as Forest Plaza. It is a small quaint subdivision with 82 single family homes. They have a healthy and vibrant neighborhood association that began in 1963. Then it was known as the Forest Plaza Community Club and Mrs. Lea Ballew was the first president. Although the organization changed their name to



the Forest Plaza Neighborhood Association this past March, the fellowship among the residents established with that first meeting in 1963 has not changed.

Mr. William Green, Forest Plaza Neighborhood Association President, joyfully describes his neighborhood as “a great place to raise a family and build great relationships with your neighbors.”

The Forest Plaza Neighborhood Association meets monthly September through May with the location being at a different residents’ homes each time. They recently registered with the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development. Join me in welcoming the Forest Plaza Neighborhood Association to the Neighborhood Services family!

Neighborly News from...

Glenwood Neighborhood Association

by Karen Clay
Neighborhood Relations Specialist

Glenwood Neighborhood Association held their annual block party hosted by block leaders from various streets within the neighborhood on Saturday, June 27, 2009. The yard signs and balloons displayed at various sites in the community created both a festive and inviting atmosphere encouraging neighbors, children, and curious on-lookers to participate. Each location had plenty of hot dogs, chips, drinks and one in particular served a Chattanooga favorite, "Moon Pies".

Block leaders are responsible for facilitating, promoting and maintaining a safe, clean and attractive environment along their block. Block leaders are also responsible for welcoming new neighbors as well as encouraging residents to attend neighborhood meetings and community events. These opportunities foster on-going neighborhood support and a more cohesive community that is empowered to address its own issues and concerns.

Glenwood is one of three neighborhoods that currently partner with Community Impact of Chattanooga, a non-profit organization created to assist the City of Chattanooga in its efforts to revitalize distressed urban neighborhoods. Glenwood Neighborhood Association and the Neighborhood Watch of Glenwood are located in council district 9 and represented by Councilman Peter Murphy who also joined in the festivities.

Hats off to Glenwood Neighborhood Association for a job well done!



Above: Councilman Peter Murphy joins the festivities at 3rd Street

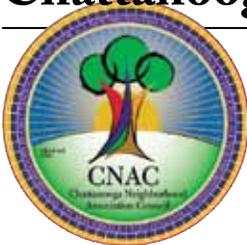


Above: Vine Street enjoys the party



Right: Oak Street is serious about their barbeque

Chattanooga Neighborhood Association Council (CNAC)



After being a recent recipient of the Chattanooga Neighborhood Services and Community Development Neighborhood Partners Program the Chattanooga Neighborhood Association Council (CNAC) proudly announces their website at cnacforyou.com. Everyone with access to a computer is invited to take a tour of the site, and please send your comments. If any neighborhood is not a member of CNAC you are encouraged to join the only organization that embraces the full embodiment of all neighborhoods in Chattanooga. Now is the time to become a part of a unified voice of every person and every neighborhood, which has a common issue or problem that needs resolution. Of course CNAC isn't the ultimate answer to every situation, but it can be very effective through its strength of uniformity. Join CNAC at their monthly meeting, which is held every fourth Monday at 6:00 p. m. at the Community Foundation, which is located at 1270 Market Street. Call 899-1748 or visit cnacforyou.com for more information.

Neighborhood History: Lupton City *by Randy Ridge, Code Enforcement Inspector Supervisor*

All of Chattanooga's neighborhoods maintain a distinct character and identity that are uniquely their own. A glimpse into the rich history of the Lupton City community, nestled near the Tennessee River between North Chattanooga and Hixson in City Council District 2, reveals images of a bygone American era of company towns and company housing where employees and residents worked together, lived together, shopped together, played together and socialized together.



School bus in front of Community Building, Lupton City. Circa 1942

Lupton City came into existence in the early 1920s, when Dixie Mercerizing Company (later Dixie Yarns) began construction of a yarn spinning plant to capitalize on a robust demand for American textile products. By the mid 1920s, construction was nearly complete on over 200 houses in the community, built and owned by the company for the purpose of housing employees. In a piece published in a 1929 edition of *The Chattanooga News*, W. Neil Thomas, Assistant General Manager of Dixie Mercerizing, wrote "Our houses, two hundred in number, are modern in construction. Each family is connected with his neighbor by concrete sidewalks, and running in front of the house is a broad, well surfaced, well oiled road." In his 1936 publication *Lupton City-Architecture and Housing*, writer Frank Fletcher noted that housing was made available to company employees for the cost of \$1 per room per week.

Lupton City residents also had access to a company store, a theatre with seating capacity of 400, a community swimming pool, gymnasium, baseball fields, restaurant, barber shop, and dry cleaner as well as the services of a doctor, dentist and nurse. Lupton City also contained a community school, provided by the county, for grades 1-8. Additionally, the village contained a post office. Author Mariose Arendalt noted in her work "Lupton City: Chattanooga's Model Mill Village" that there was no charge for credit accounts at the company owned general store. This was a unique occurrence for company towns of the era.

By the 1950s, an increase in automobile ownership led to a decrease in the need for housing in the village by employees. By the mid- 50s, less than 50% of Dixie Yarns plant workers still lived in the village. The company store closed in the 50s, and the company began selling some of

the housing units.

Today, Lupton City continues to be a vibrant neighborhood of residents spanning multiple generations as older housing stock has been renewed and rehabilitated. Some current residents remember the village's unique history very vividly because they lived it. Younger generations have moved to the area because of its close proximity to outdoor recreation opportunities and affordable housing. Because of its rich and varied history,

Lupton City remains a treasured jewel among Chattanooga's neighborhoods.

(Special thanks to the Local History Department of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)

FY 2008-2009

The Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development, acting on behalf of the City of Chattanooga is responsible for the administration of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), and the HOME Investment Partnership Act Funds and American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. In accordance with the Citizens Participation requirements of Section 104 (a)(3) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and with HUD regulations 24 CFR 91, the City hereby makes available to the public the Consolidate Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the 2008-2009 program year. Citizens wishing to review the Performance Report may do so at the following location:

Neighborhood and Community Development Office
101 East 11th Street
Second Floor
City Hall Building
Chattanooga, TN 37402

The CAPER will be available from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.
Monday thru Friday beginning August 25, 2009.

Written comments will be received until Friday,
September 25, 2009.

August Calendar of Events

| Date | Time | Description |
|--------|--------|--|
| 3 Mon | 6:30P | Hill City Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| | 6:30P | East Lake Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| | 6:30P | Wheeler Avenue Neighborhood Watch Meeting |
| | 7:00P | Murray Hills Neighborhood Association Board Meeting |
| | 7:00P | Community Association of Historic St. Elmo Meeting |
| 6 Thu | 10:00A | Environmental Court (Neighborhood Services) |
| | 6:00P | Glenwood Neighborhood Watch Meeting |
| | 7:00P | Lookout Valley Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| 8 Sat | 12:00P | Churchville Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| 10 Mon | 1:00P | Regional Planning Agency Meeting |
| | 7:00P | Fairfax-Bagwell Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| 11 Tue | 6:00P | Sector 2 Community Policing Interactive Committee (CPIC) |
| | 6:00P | Lupton City Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| | 6:00P | Glass Farms Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| | 6:00P | Bushtown Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| | 6:00P | Foxwood Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| 12 Wed | 10:00A | Board of Zoning Appeal Meeting |
| | 11:00A | East Lake Senior Citizens Meeting |
| | 6:00P | Hamilton Acres Neighborhood Association |
| | 6:00P | Hamilton Acres Neighborhood Association |
| 13 Thu | 10:00A | Environmental Court (Neighborhood Services) |
| | 6:00P | Missionary Ridge Neighborhood Association Board Meeting |
| | 6:00P | Sector 3 Community Police Interaction Committee (CPIC) - George & Delta Zone |
| | 6:00P | Southside/Cowart Place Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| | 6:30P | Clifton Hills Neighborhood Improvement Committee Meeting |
| | 7:00P | Cedar Hill Improvement League Meeting |

| Date | Time | Description |
|--------|--------|--|
| 17 Mon | 6:00P | South Chattanooga Association of Neighbors Meeting |
| | 6:00P | Avondale Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| | 6:00P | North Brainerd Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| | 6:00P | Washington Hills Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| 18 Tue | 6:00P | Orchard Knob Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| | 7:00P | Cloverdale Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| 20 Thu | 10:00A | Environmental Court (Neighborhood Services) |
| | 5:00P | Menlo Park Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| | 6:30P | MLK Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| | 7:00P | Highland Park Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| 24 Mon | 6:00P | Chattanooga Neighborhood Association Council (CNAC) |
| | 7:00P | Oak Grove Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| 25 Tue | 4:00P | Community Anti-Drug Coalition Across Hamilton County |
| | 7:00P | Stuart Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| 26 Wed | 11:30A | Court Watch Partners |
| 27 Thu | 10:00A | Environmental Court (Neighborhood Services) |
| | 5:30P | South Broad Redevelopment Group, Inc. Meeting |
| | 6:00P | Glenwood Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| | 6:00P | Woodmore Manor Neighborhood Association Meeting |
| | 7:00P | Ridgedale Community Association Meeting |
| 31 Mon | 6:30P | Sylvan Drive Neighborhood Association |

For more information on these events and all registered neighborhood association meeting dates go to Neighborhood Services at <http://www.chattanooga.gov> and check our Calendar of Events

City-Wide Services

Brush On Demand

As of July 1, Chattanooga residents will simply need to call 3-1-1 for any brush pick-up. This new service will allow citizens to report their brush piles to 3-1-1 for collection as opposed to awaiting their pickup week. Public Works crews will be routed daily to collection locations by request.

Recycling

Biweekly pickup for recycling begins September 2009. Citizens must register to join biweekly curbside collection, and may do so by visiting www.recycleright.org or by calling 643-JOIN.

August Systematic Codes Inspections

Teams of code enforcement inspectors will be going block by block in the following neighborhoods inspecting each parcel for City Code violations including litter, overgrowth, abandoned vehicles and housing code violations:

Week of August 3, 2009

Highland Park.....District 9

Week of August 17, 2009

Highland Park.....District 8