



A Newsletter from the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development

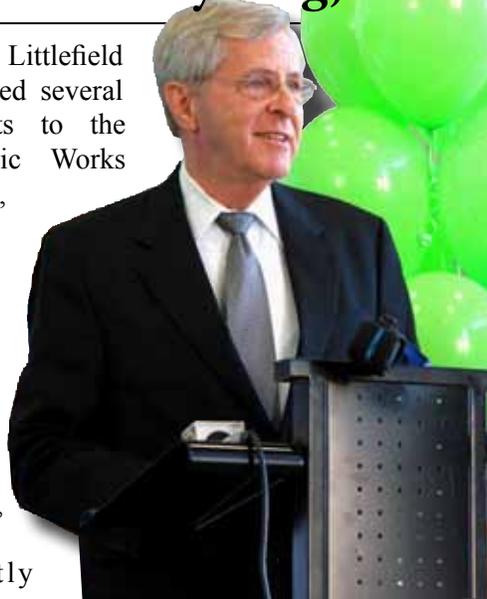
Changes to Recycling, Brush and Garbage Pickup

Mayor Littlefield has announced several improvements to the City's Public Works department, including increasing recycling collection from monthly to biweekly.

"As a community, we have significantly improved our recycling habits and are working hard to do our part for the environment," said Mayor Littlefield. Citizens must register to join the biweekly curbside collection, and may do so by visiting www.recycleright.org or by calling 643-JOIN. Biweekly pickup for recycling begins September 2009.

In addition, the City will be implementing a new brush service entitled "Brush on Demand." This service will allow citizens to report their brush piles to 3-1-1 for collection. This service begins July 1, 2009. Public Works crews will be routed daily to collection locations on request.

Beginning this August, approximately 18,000 citizens of Chattanooga will have a



City Improves Efficiency in Collection of Garbage, Brush and Recyclable Materials



new garbage collection day, which is the result of an employee schedule revision to increase efficiency. Citizens will be personally notified of their new pickup day by mail this July.

"These citywide service enhancements have the anticipated outcomes of increased efficiency, improved service and cost savings," added Mayor Littlefield. "Once fully implemented, we anticipate our annual savings to be between three-quarters of a million dollars and one million dollars."

For more information about recycling in Chattanooga, please visit www.recycleright.org or call 643-JOIN. For more information about citywide services, please call 3-1-1 or visit www.chattanooga.gov.

"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

In his State of the City address, Mayor Littlefield stated "These are interesting times, challenging times, times of great opportunity." That is true for our department, for city government as a whole, and for every citizen of Chattanooga. We look forward to meeting the challenges set before us and seeking every opportunity to make our neighborhoods healthier, happier and more enjoyable and rewarding places to live.

Chattanooga has recently won several awards, two of which are highlighted on the following page. We are making great strides in becoming the best city in the nation to live, work and play, but we have many challenges ahead. Those of you who read this newsletter are the citizens who take an interest in your neighborhood, your city and what your city government is doing. You are the ones that are willing to take part in determining how Chattanooga grows and prospers.

Mayor Littlefield offered later in his speech: "Successful communities must meet challenging and interesting times with a spirit of energy, enthusiasm and optimism." We know our readers already have that spirit. Let's spread it around!

Teens Erasing Graffiti

The Chatt City Erasers are making graffiti and tags disappear with a lot of elbow grease and some donated paint and brushes.

The Erasers are made up of a team of paid youth employed by the City of Chattanooga through its Summer Youth Employment Program.

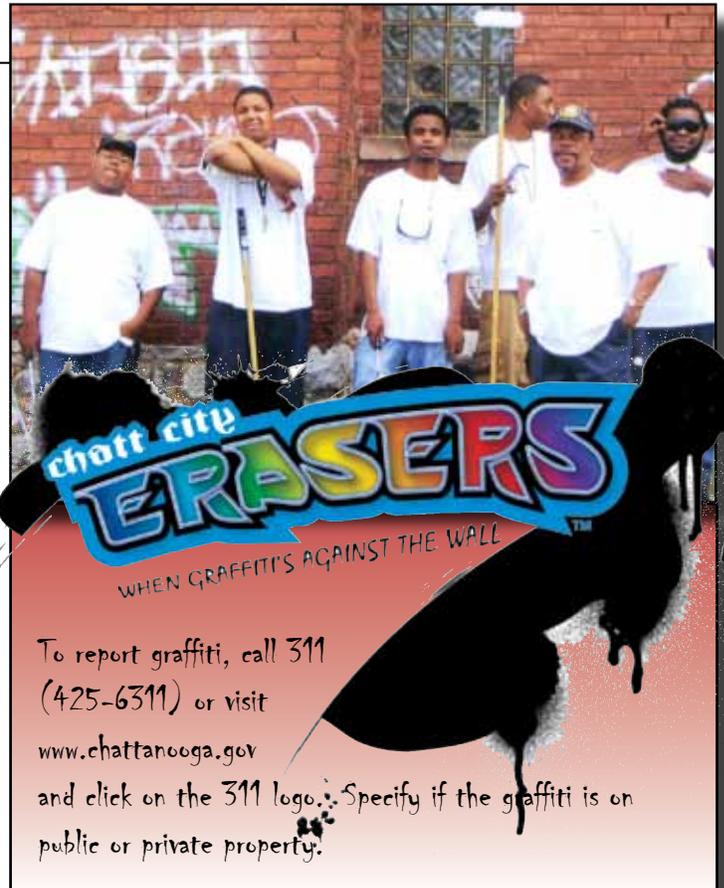
"Graffiti in our city is costly and destructive, and in some instances it contains dangerous or offensive messages – in addition to that, graffiti is against the law," said Mayor Ron Littlefield. "A form of graffiti, 'Tagging' can be affiliated with gangs or drug-sale locations, which is unacceptable in our Scenic City."

"The kids in this program aren't just painting over graffiti; they are serving as mentors to other kids," said Al Chapman, director of Faith-Based Initiatives. "The Mayor started the Eraser program two years ago, and there have been no dropouts. Several kids have gone on to college. I call that a win-win for our community."

Last summer the Erasers cleaned up more than 1,150 square feet of public and private property and 38 above-ground Electric Power Board power boxes.

"The Erasers were so well embraced by our community and so successful that we received state-wide recognition and calls from other cities that wanted to duplicate our program," said Mayor Littlefield.

In addition to the Office of Faith-Based Initiatives, other partners in the graffiti removal program include the City of Chattanooga Public Works Department, the Chattanooga Police Department, business owners, neighborhood associations and concerned citizens.



The seven workers from the City's Summer Youth Program make up the graffiti clean-up team. The Summer Youth Program provides employment opportunities and activities for more than 600 teens and young adults. The program encourages positive behavior through summer employment and mentoring.

Chattanooga Finalist for 2009 All-America City Award

by Donna Deweese, Neighborhood Program Specialist

The city of Chattanooga was recently bestowed the distinction of honorable mention for the most livable city by the U.S. Conference of Mayors. In addition, Chattanooga was named as a finalist in the 60th annual All-America City Awards competition presented by the National Civic League (NCL).

The Conference of Mayors City Livability Program honors mayors and their city governments for developing programs that enhance the quality of life in urban areas. Chattanooga was one of twenty communities selected from a pool of over 200 applicants nationwide to receive the City Livability Award.

According to NCL criteria, an All-America City has a proven capacity for community-based problem solving, grassroots civic engagement and cooperation between sectors (public, private and nonprofit). To become a finalist, participants documented three community projects that address local challenges such as job creation/economic development, environmental sustainability, neighborhood revitalization and disaster recovery.

As part of the award process, all finalists are asked to create a quilt square which will be compiled in the summer of 2009. The quilt will hit the road and travel to all the finalist communities to display in 2009 and 2010.

Elluwead Love displays the quilt square she made that will represent Chattanooga as a finalist for All-America City.



Elluwead Love, Administrative Support Assistant for the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development, created the City's 12-inch square that will be part of the traveling exhibit. Using the theme "Chattanooga Choo Choo," Ms. Love chose the city's most recognized and visible icon to represent Chattanooga. We are very proud that her work will be displayed as part of the finalist's quilt and look forward to seeing the completed project when it comes to Chattanooga.

Take Root Wins Governor's Award

Chattanooga's own urban forestry project, *Take Root*, recently won the 2009 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award in the Agriculture & Forestry category. This prestigious state-wide award recognizes voluntary actions taken by organizations and individuals to protect and improve Tennessee's natural environment. "These award winners truly have taken environmental stewardship to a new and innovative level, setting an example for all Tennesseans," said Governor Phil Bredesen.

Take Root is a community-driven tree planting project initiated in 2007 by members of Leadership Chattanooga. Working together with the City's Urban Forestry Department, the Chattanooga Tree Commission, and several volunteers, *Take Root* continues to move toward its goal of doubling the tree canopy in downtown Chattanooga. Benefits of an increased urban forest include cooler summertime temperatures, storm water control, energy savings, improved air quality, increased property values, improved livability in neighborhoods, and carbon sequestration. *Take Root's* objectives also overlap with the City's Climate Action Plan, with an action item recommendation "to obtain ideal tree canopy cover in Chattanooga".

Take Root planted 600 trees this past fall and winter with funding from the Benwood Foundation, individual donors, and local business partnerships. Tree planting will continue next year with new funding from the Lyndhurst Foundation and continued funding from individual donors. To learn more about *Take Root* or to donate, visit www.takerootchattanooga.com.



Neighborly News from...



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 Neighborhood Association Council



Things are becoming more exciting for the Chattanooga Neighborhood Association Council (CNAC). More people have recently come into the organization. Ideas are flowing, and there are more opportunities for citizens to engage in positive things for our neighborhoods as a whole. The dialogue between members has expanded to a level that is comfortable for everyone who participates, which broadens the perspective of CNAC. We can reach out into the community and identify problems that are common to all neighborhoods, so that solutions can be accomplished. When neighborhoods work together as a unit, it benefits the entire city, because there is a tremendous resource available to people when they are a unified body. The strength comes from the experience that is garnered within an organization like CNAC. This experience is not found in an individual person or neighborhood, but it is highly visible when everyone unifies for the same goal and purpose.

CNAC meets every fourth Monday at 6:00 p. m. at the Community Foundation, 1270 Market Street. Call 899-1748 for more information.

Lookout Valley Neighborhood Association

by Karen Clay, Neighborhood Relations Specialist

Lookout Valley community is located seven minutes from downtown Chattanooga on the Tennessee/Georgia line in City Council District 1. Formerly known as Lookout Valley Citizens Committee and established in the late 1980s, residents reorganized and changed the name of the

organization in 2001 to the Lookout Valley Neighborhood Association. The organization sponsors and hosts a number of annual events including: Community Pride Day; "Teacher of the Year" nominated by students of Lookout Valley Elementary, Middle and High Schools; golf tournament; patriotic celebration in July; Kids Costume Contest in October and the Christmas parade held in December. Monthly meetings are the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the John A. Patten Recreation Center, 3202 Kelley's Ferry Road.

The association applied for and received funding from the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development's Neighborhood Partners Program to purchase yards signs, banners and stationery to inform residents about neighborhood meetings and other activities taking place in the community. Congratulations to the association for their hard work and all they do in the community.

Susan Dailey and Charlie Galvin proudly display the new meeting banners



Neighborly News from...

Washington Hills Neighborhood Association

by DeSharla Lavette, *Neighborhood Relations Specialist*

The Annual Washington Hills Neighborhood Association's May festival included the grand opening of a concession stand at the Washington Hill Recreation Center, food, yard sale, live music and much more. Washington Hills Association President Charles Payne says "The festival was a success and we look forward to 2010 for an even bigger and better festival. Our thanks go out to all the association members for their dedication and hard work and to all the participants who came to support our effort to make our community stronger by getting together in a fun and friendly way."



Above: volunteers serve food and refreshments from the new concession stand.

Left: The ribbon cutting ceremony included (L to R): Special Events Chairperson Jackie Dowell; Parks and Recreation Director Greta Hayes; County Commissioners Warren Mackey and Greg Beck; State Representative JoAnne Favors; City Councilman Russell Gilbert and Washington Hills Neighborhood Association president Charles Payne

Hickory Creek Townhome Association

by Debbie Johnson
Neighborhood Relations Specialist

The Hickory Creek Townhome Association was a recipient of 2008-09 Neighborhood Partners Program funding. The association was a first time applicant to the program, and they really dug in on a special project. Renewal and revitalization to the entrance of their community was utmost on their agenda. The landscaping in their entrance was comprised of evergreen groundcover and shrubs planted in 1987. While still very attractive, the community wanted a more vibrant entrance to reflect their neighborhood, so the old groundcover and shrubs were removed and replaced with flowering plants and shrubs. Pine bark mini-nuggets and boulders added a finishing touch to the landscape.

Bruce Spencer, Manager and resident of Hickory Creek Townhome Association, reported that "the board and manager have been complimented by members of the association. Visitors to the neighborhood notice and applaud the improvements."

The Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development joins in the applause to Hickory Creek Townhome Association and a project well done!



Working Together Works! Effective Community Partnerships

by Vanessa A. Jackson
Neighborhood Program Specialist



Chattanooga is known for accomplishing great things through successful partnerships. This is also true of the accomplishments that are taking place in our neighborhoods through organizations and efforts such as “Unity in the Community” Eastside Day of Service, Front Porch Alliance and other efforts too numerous to name. Whether your organization has an annual budget of \$500.00 or \$5 million, there are many advantages to cultivating successful partnerships.

- Partnerships maximize financial and human resources. In these economically challenging times, many organizations are having to shave costs which impact the outreach, services, and programs they provide the community. Through effective partnerships, organizations are able to pool funding, manpower, and other resources so that their individual goals can still be reached.
- Partnerships create collective “wins” that could be difficult or impossible to win alone. Many community issues require large numbers of people and many resources. Regardless of whether it’s a neighborhood association, place of worship, civic organization, government agency, or business, partnering allows each group to bring its specific expertise and resource to generating a broader more comprehensive outcome.
- Partnerships can build an ongoing power base for its participants. Once organizations become aware of the mission and goals of prospective partners, they can capitalize on their commonalities to such that each individual organization’s goals as well as the collective impact of all partners are maximized.

Now that you may be thinking about a potential partnership, here are a few tips to assist you in your efforts:

- Remember, every successful planning effort begins with a vision. Vision is the ability to see opportunities within your current situation. If you don’t know where you are going, any road will do. If you don’t know what you want to accomplish, then how can you draw partners to assist you in your efforts? Take time to coordinate a visioning process for your organizations members and volunteers. If you need help with this process, our department’s Neighborhood Relations Specialist can offer you assistance.
- Everyone has heard the saying, “Sometimes it’s not what you know but who you know.” Relationships build thriving neighborhood and community organizations as well as successful partnerships. Take full advantage of all opportunities to learn more about all the entities that exist within your neighborhood as well as those with a city, state or national sphere of influence. After you make a contact, arrange a time that you can meet to discuss your organization’s goals and projects in greater detail. If you are intentional in seeking out relationships, you will be surprised at how many organizations have overlapping interest, program, and objectives as your organization.
- Strive to Develop Asset-Based Partnerships and outreach programs. Weak communities are places that fail to mobilize the talents, skills and resources of its residents or members. Everybody has something to bring to the table! Each time an individual or an organization uses its capacity, the community or organization becomes more powerful. View your organization based on its assets rather than its deficiencies. Resources and assets come in forms other than money. Making deliberate efforts to promote your organization based on a shared vision, building relationships and promoting its assets will prime your neighborhood organization for the bountiful successful partnerships within its reach!

Save These Dates: October 22 & 23, 2009

as the
City of Chattanooga Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development

UNITES

Uniting **N**eighborhoods **I**n **T**imes of **E**conomic **S**tress

The 11th Annual Neighborhoods & Codes Conference

at the Chattanooga Convention Center • 1150 Carter Street • Chattanooga, Tennessee

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

CALLING ALL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

You are invited to set up a display
highlighting your neighborhood association
at the 11th annual
Neighborhoods and Codes Conference

UNITES

Uniting **N**eighborhoods
in **T**imes of **E**conomic **S**tress

Thursday, October 22 and Friday, October 23
Chattanooga Convention Center

To reserve an exhibit space contact
Donna Deweese at 423-425-3718 or
deweese_d@mail.chattanooga.gov

by August 1, 2009

or you may download an
Exhibitor Information Form
at www.chattanooga.gov

July Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Description
2 Thu	10:00A	Environmental Court (Neighborhood Services)
	6:00P	Glenwood Neighborhood Watch Meeting
	7:00P	Lookout Valley Neighborhood Association Meeting
3 Fri		July 4th Holiday Observed - City Hall Closed
6 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
8 Wed	10:00A	Board of Zoning Appeal Meeting
	11:00A	East Lake Senior Citizens Meeting
	6:00P	Hamilton Acres Neighborhood Association
9 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
	11 Sat	12:00P
13 Mon	1:00P	Regional Planning Agency Meeting
	7:00P	Fairfax-Bagwell Neighborhood Association Meeting
14 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
	7:00P	Lake Hills Neighborhood Association Meeting

Date	Time	Description
16 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
20 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
	6:00P	Orchard Knob Neighborhood Association Meeting
21 Tue	7:00P	Cloverdale Neighborhood Association Meeting
	11:30A	Court Watch Partners
22 Wed	11:30A	Court Watch Partners
	10:00A	Environmental Court (Neighborhood Services)
23 Thu	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
	6:00P	Chattanooga Neighborhood Association Council (CNAC)
27 Mon	6:30P	Sylvan Drive Neighborhood Association
	7:00P	Oak Grove Neighborhood Association Meeting
	4:00P	Community Anti-Drug Coalition Across Hamilton County
28 Tue	7:00P	Stuart Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting
	10:00A	Environmental Court (Neighborhood Services)
30 Thu	10:00A	Environmental Court (Neighborhood Services)

July Systematic Codes Inspections

Teams of code enforcement inspectors will be in the following neighborhoods:

Week of July 10, 2009

Park City District 8

Week of July 24, 2009

St. Elmo District 7

Neighborhood Talk

A weekly radio show from the
Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development

Tuesday Mornings 9:00-9:30 a.m.

WNOO 1260 AM