



*A Newsletter from the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development*



"Building Better Neighborhoods... Block By Block"

# COMMON GROUND



## Electronic Self Destruction

*by Debbie Johnson,  
Neighborhood Relations Specialist*

Is your association committing "electronic self destruction"? Let me clarify that question by asking some other questions. Has your association suddenly seen a decrease in attendance? Are you asking yourself what happened from just a year ago when attendance was larger? You have improved your communications with the neighborhood through electronic mail (e-mail), Facebook and even a web page - so where is everyone? We have saved so much time and money by not having to call our neighbors monthly, making flyers and posters, so we just don't understand.

The ease of sending a paperless reminder to several people at one time through an e-mail or posting on Facebook is a wondrous thing. Indeed you are saving not only paper but time. However, not everyone has e-mail or a Facebook account. Don't be shocked at that, because it is more common than you think. Also, consider that while most may have email at work and/or at home they are so inundated with messages from friends, family, and businesses that there is simply not enough time to adequately read all the mail.

It is the same dilemma that we have with junk mail coming through our US Postal system. I, like so many others, simply place that mail in a pile and revisit it many weeks later. And yes-there was an event or a sale I



wished I had gone to! But when a friend or relative calls me to ask, "Did you see where 'such and such' is having a yard sale"? Then, I know something is happening that I want to attend.

The point is that while the technological communications are great, they are but another enhancement in communicating and should not replace other tried and true methods. I am referring to "person to person communication"- verbal interaction.

I have seen thriving and successful associations lose its members simply by utilizing what they considered the new and efficient means of communication via the technology highway. *continued on page 2*

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### Neighborhood Services and Community Development

**(423) 425-3700 • [www.chattanooga.gov](http://www.chattanooga.gov)**

101 East 11th Street, Suite 200, Chattanooga, TN 37402

Beverly P. Johnson, Administrator  
 Anthony Sammons, Deputy Administrator  
 Sandra Gober, Manager, Community Development  
 Dottie Brewer, Editor, *Common Ground*

If you would like to receive *Common Ground* via e-mail send a message to [brewer\\_d@chattanooga.gov](mailto:brewer_d@chattanooga.gov)

## Electronic Self Destruction *continued from page 1*



Considering the phone tree of yesterday old and outdated, folks no longer actually talked to one another. This left a terrible void in the neighborhood network.

Our mothers always told us not to put all our eggs in one basket and they were right. A blending of both the old and the new is the most important first step in maintaining clear communications in your neighborhood. It is an efficient and holistic way to not only retain your current membership but also an effective recruitment process for your neighborhood association.

So pick up that membership roster, and give some folks a call that you have not seen for awhile. Talk to them and tell them they are needed in the neighborhood association. You will be surprised at how good it will make both of feel. The old cliché "It is nice to be needed" has never been truer. Everyone wants to know they are missed and are important to the neighborhood. So utilize both your computers and your telephone and have fun doing it!

## Citizens Police Academy

The Chattanooga Citizen's Police Academy was started in 1999, in an effort to create positive interaction and communication between the Chattanooga Police Department and the citizens it serves. The Citizen's Academy is a nine-week Law Enforcement Education program that provides an accurate look at Police Work and the Criminal Justice System. The program offers information, interactive activities and shared dialogue with the department and its officers. A graduation ceremony is held at its conclusion and participants receive Citizens Police Academy certificates.

Although Academy students receive instruction and training in numerous police-related subjects, the graduates are not prepared for, expected to, nor authorized to conduct any police services.

The Citizen's Academy meets one day a week from 6-8 p.m. at the Police Department's training facility. It continues to receive great participation from the community. Many graduates have attested to the fact that it is truly a rewarding experience. To obtain more information call the Office of Community Outreach at 643-5090, or email Sgt. Wayne Jefferson at [jefferson\\_wa@chattanooga.gov](mailto:jefferson_wa@chattanooga.gov).



*Beverly P. Johnson, Administrator*

## Administrator's Letter

The World Changers have come and gone, and despite a very soggy two weeks, they managed to complete 31 home repairs for low income families in Chattanooga. Homeowners that were lucky enough to have these bright, caring young volunteers come to their homes to work cannot say enough good things about them. "Words can't describe how blessed I feel, having them here fixing things" said a tearful Ms. Few. The sentiments were the same at sites all over town. Thank you, World Changers, for the great work you do!

Plans are in the making for National Night Out on October 2. Please contact Sgt. Wayne Jefferson with the Chattanooga Police Department (see page 3) if your neighborhood association is planning an event that evening. The Police Department will share that list with our Neighborhood Relations Specialists so they can plan their visits to as many celebrations as possible that night. The Police Department can also assist you with visits from representatives from police, fire, City council representatives as well as road closures for block parties.

# National Night Out

It is that time of year again. National Night Out is just around the corner so neighborhood groups need to start working on plans to participate this year. Tennessee will celebrate National Night Out this year on October 2, 2012.

In order for your group to be on the list of participants The Chattanooga Police Department needs to know no later than Wednesday September 12. The list of participating groups will be distributed to the media and submitted to City officials prior to the event in order for them to schedule the events of the evening into their plans. Participants not submitting information before this date will not be included on the list. If your group is not planning to participate this year, please take a moment to let the Police Department know so they can note that on the list as well.

Contact Sgt. Wayne Jefferson at [jefferson\\_wa@chattanooga.gov](mailto:jefferson_wa@chattanooga.gov) to register your group. For additional information, please check the National Night Out Website at [www.nationaltownwatch.org](http://www.nationaltownwatch.org).



POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

# World Changers

World Changers volunteers repaired 31 homes in Chattanooga from July 9 - 20. We thought you might enjoy photos of these young people from all across the country who gave up part of their summer vacation to help those in need in our neighborhoods.



## Neighborhood Roundtable *by Karen D. Clay, Neighborhood Relations Specialist*

With the advent of iPads, iPods, laptops, cell phones and other 21st century gadgets, our youth are more technologically savvy than we could have ever imagined. However, as adults it is our job to provide them with the training and insight needed to make sure they are responsible and safe –especially as it relates to operating a vehicle.

Consider these shocking statistics:

- 3 in 10 teens will be involved in a crash in their first year of driving.
- Per mile driven, teen drivers ages 16-19 are four times more likely than older drivers to crash.
- Nationwide, each year more than 5000 teens (ages 16-20) are killed in passenger vehicle crashes.
- Some teens are immature, inexperienced and an inability to anticipate and recognize dangerous situations.

Caroline Johnson, Drivers' Education Coordinator spoke to the July Neighborhood Roundtable about safe driving. She talked about the new and affordable opportunity for city residents, ages 15-22, to participate in a professional defensive driving course, funded through Photo Enforcement Revenue. Students learn the most advanced defensive driving techniques and gain awareness and respect for driving responsibilities. Many car insurance carriers offer significant discounts to policyholders whose child(ren) complete the defensive driving course. Other program benefits include:

- Prospective student pays only a \$50.00 fee to register for the program.
- State certified instructors will lead each 5 week course
- Each course meets 2 afternoons a week (3 hours per class) for 5 weeks or 4 consecutive Saturdays (7 ½ hours per day) at selected city community centers.
- Six hours of behind-the-wheel training individually scheduled with instructor.
- For each student who successfully completes the course, Chattanooga's Photo Enforcement Program pays the balance of the course fee (\$300) to Haman's Driving School.

Speakers talk to the class about drunk driving, safe navigation around railroad crossings, road etiquette (bicyclists & pedestrians), and safe travel through work zones. Ms. Johnson was very proud to mention 1,103 youth have graduated in the 2½ years the program has been in existence. The Photo Enforcement Program and

Traffic Engineering Division have combined resources with the Education, Arts and Culture Department, Parks and Recreation, and the Chattanooga Police Department to establish the city-sponsored driver's education program available at a low cost to city residents. For more information about the Driver's Education program call 643-7011 or 311.

Another topic discussed during the Roundtable was National Night Out (NNO) - American's Night Out Against Crime. This popular event is celebrated in thousands of neighborhoods throughout the country. National Night Out is designed to:

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

Sergeant Wayne Jefferson, Chattanooga Police Department Community Outreach, spoke to the group about National Night Out as various neighborhood groups begin to make plans for the upcoming event. Police departments throughout Tennessee have changed the date of National Night Out from August 7 to October 2, 2012. One factor for changing the date is the weather, providing cooler temperatures.

Sergeant Jefferson explained that each neighborhood association determines its own activities. This year the Piney Woods and Oak Hill neighborhood associations will host the kick-off beginning at 5:00 p.m. on October 2. Most NNO event hours are 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. and include an array of activities and food. Some groups are joining together to co-sponsor NNO. Sergeant Jefferson stated this is something he has been encouraging groups to do for a number of years and is glad to see it will happen this year.

Once groups have finalized their NNO plans the information should be emailed to Sergeant Jefferson. A spreadsheet will be created listing all participating groups and distributed to Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development, Mayor's Office, City Council and other city department heads. Next year's kick-off location will be in Sector Two. If an association is interested in hosting the 2013 kick-off event, notify Sergeant Jefferson at [jefferson\\_wa@chattanooga.gov](mailto:jefferson_wa@chattanooga.gov).

**The Next  
Neighborhood Roundtable**  
September 12 @ 1:00 p.m.  
Mayor's Conference Room  
City Hall

## Dogwood Village Homeowner's Association

by Ty Armour, Neighborhood Relations Specialist

The Dogwood Village Homeowner's Association was established December 6, 2004 and formally registered with Hamilton County. This association was set up to be mandatory with established restrictions and bylaws. In spite of this, the association never fully got off the ground and even appeared abandoned. Thanks to the renewed efforts of both the original and new homeowners of the neighborhood, the Dogwood Village Homeowner's Association is now being revived. Dogwood Village is still in the "infancy" stage of becoming more established with this renewed effort.

Dogwood Village Homeowner's Association is now recognized on the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development's Neighborhood Registry and is making plans to get involved in the Neighborhood Partnership Program as well as the Neighborhood Leadership Institute.

The Dogwood Village Homeowner's Association meets from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at Tyner Recreation Center, 6900 Ty Hi Drive.



Shayla Toliver and her children at the gateway to Dogwood Village

## Chattanooga Public Library

### South Chattanooga Celebrates 20 Years of Neighborhood Library Service

Dozens of residents from the Southside community celebrated the 20th anniversary of its neighborhood branch library on July 7. Special activities included inflatable playground equipment, a family birthday craft project, and sidewalk chalk art.

This was the first Saturday the South Chattanooga branch has been open. To better serve its customers, evening hours have also been added. New hours are Monday, Thursday, and Saturday from 9 a.m.–6 p.m.; and Tuesday, Wednesday from 11 a.m.–8 p.m. The branch will be closed on Friday and Sunday.



### Extended Library Hours

Chattanooga Public Library customers now have access to their neighborhood branches on evenings and weekends, in some cases for the first time. Library Board of Directors voted unanimously to open Eastgate and Northgate branch libraries on Sundays beginning July 1.

"I am thrilled that we were able to reconfigure our hours to better serve our customers," states Corinne Hill, Executive Library Director. "I am especially pleased that we will offer Sunday hours at our two busiest branches, Eastgate and Northgate, and evening hours at all of our neighborhood locations—something the community has wanted for a long time. And offering library services on Saturdays at our South Chattanooga Branch just makes sense. Our downtown hours have also shifted to better serve the downtown community."

For more information about hours or locations, visit [www.lib.chattanooga.gov](http://www.lib.chattanooga.gov).

## Outdoor Chattanooga

### Rapid Learning Whitewater Program *By Drew Harrison*

*Drew Harrison, 18, began with Rapid Learning when he was 9 years old. For the past three years, Drew has been full time summer recreation staff with Outdoor Chattanooga, leading everything from whitewater and flat water kayaking trips to summer camps and community center programs.*

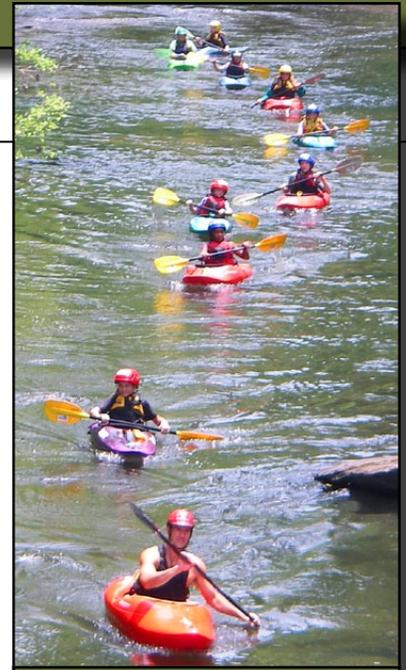
When I was a kid, I remember walking down into our family's garage one day and finding two plastic watercrafts like I had never seen before. Curious as I am, I rushed to my dad to inquire about them, and that was the first day I learned about kayaking. My dad had been involved in kayaking before I was born and even a bit after, but soon had set it aside when my sister came along. Now that I was old enough to try, he knew it was my turn to take it on.

Dad had just learned about a kayaking class that provided all the gear and instruction for anyone willing to give it a try. They called it "Rapid Learning" and it was put on by The City of Chattanooga's Outventure program. I was eager to give it a try, yet at the time, I had no idea what kind of new habits I'd be getting myself into. Not only was I instantly taken by the sport, but I was soon thrown into a community of amazing people that I hadn't known before.

As a Boy Scout, I was already familiar with many outdoor activities when I first attended the kayak class. To my surprise, none of them were as fun and exhilarating as kayaking! Now, having been with the Rapid Learning Program for 9 years in total, I can say it has been a life changing experience. I have advanced so much through the teachings of my past mentors, that for the past 3 years have been an instructor myself.

I have to say that the only thing better than kayaking down the rapids is getting to share my knowledge with all the new people Rapid Learning draws into this great sport. The program still runs strong, and we're doing our best to get people to come and learn. I personally tell every one of my friends and even people I meet on the street about our class.

It amazes me how the kayaking community bonds like one big family. In fact, my own family gets a chance that most families don't, and that is the chance to paddle together and enjoy each other's company in a whole new way. Nothing strengthens a family and community more than being in the outdoors together doing the things we love. Thanks to our program, the kayaking community grows everyday. So I challenge anyone that reads this to "Come out and play!" and I look forward to seeing you on the river!



### Rapid Learning Weekly Roll Practice

Tuesdays, Two Sessions:  
5:30 and 7:00 p.m.

Chester Frost County Park  
Call 643-6888 to learn more



### Bike Chattanooga

The City of Chattanooga and Alta Bicycle Share announce that the Bike Chattanooga Bicycle Transit System is now open to the public, providing 300 bicycles in a network of 28 stations throughout downtown and into the North Shore.

Several innovations have been incorporated into the system according to the demands of the City of Chattanooga, including new solar technology, a user friendly 7-inch color LCD screen at each kiosk, hybrid credit card readers (magnetic stripe and contact chip), a wireless GPS interface, and member card and smart card readers. The Chattanooga bicycles will also be equipped with a secondary locking system that will allow the user to secure the bike for short stops without having to return to a station.

The public may use the system by walking up to the solar-powered kiosks or signing up online at [www.bikechattanooga.com](http://www.bikechattanooga.com). 24 hour access passes are available for \$6 at each station kiosk. Annual memberships are available at a reduced cost of \$60 through September 3.

## Announcements

## 2012 International Property Maintenance Code Fundamentals

### CEU Seminar for Codes Professionals

**October 17, 2012**

8:00 – 8:30 am Registration

8:30 am – 4:00 pm Seminar

(Lunch on your own from 12:00 - 1:30)

Hilton Garden Inn, Scenic City Room  
311 Chestnut Street, Chattanooga, TN 37402

*Presented by*

Mike Perrone, International Codes Council

This seminar provides codes professionals with:

- A better understanding of the differences between the 2009 IPMC and the 2012 IPMC
- Exercises to apply new code requirements to problems similar to those encountered in the field
- An understanding of the reasons the code changes occurred
- The ability to locate, describe and apply the appropriate code sections in order to determine compliance or noncompliance while performing an inspection

\$100 registration fee includes course materials and CEU credit of .6 (6 hours)

**Registration Deadline**  
**Monday, September 17, 2012**

For more information call (423) 425-3739  
or register online at [www.chattanooga.gov](http://www.chattanooga.gov)

## SAVE-THE-DATE

for the fourth annual  
**Family Promise Camp Out**  
to be held at the  
**First Tennessee Pavilion**

**Saturday, from Sept. 29 at 5 p.m.**  
**through Sunday, Sept. 30 at 7 a.m.**

The Camp Out is an event where participants experience what it's like to be homeless by bringing their own tent or cardboard box, spending the night outdoors and eating from a soup kitchen.

The purpose of the Camp Out is to raise money and awareness of the barriers faced by families in need, and to let the community know how they can help them break those barriers.

Cost is \$25 per person.

Groups or families up to four people \$50.

Each additional person \$10.

Children under 10 free. No pets please.

All proceeds benefit programs for families in need. For more information, or if you would like to become a sponsor, please call 423-756-3891 or [www.fpchatt.com](http://www.fpchatt.com)

## CHATTANOOGA BADMINTON



PARKS AND RECREATION

**Saturday, August 25, 2012**

8:00a Registration & Warm-Up  
9:00a Play Begins

**OPEN 2012**

AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN  
TO THOSE WHO PLACE

**Sunday, August 26, 2012**

8:00a Registration & Warm-Up  
9:00a Play Begins

YONEX AS-30  
FEATHER SHUTTLES

**\$20 FOR 1ST EVENT**  
**\$15 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL**  
**(MAX 4 EVENTS PER PLAYER)**

**BRAINERD COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**1010 N. MOORE RD CHATTANOOGA, TN 37411**  
**423.425.3600**

GO ONLINE TO PRE-REGISTER:  
[HTTP://SITES.GOOGLE.COM/SITE/CHATTANOOGAOPEN2012](http://sites.google.com/site/chattanoogaopen2012)

[ALEXANDER\\_D@CHATTANOOGA.GOV](mailto:ALEXANDER_D@CHATTANOOGA.GOV)

At the Next

## Neighborhood Roundtable

**September 12, 2012**  
**1:00 p.m.**

Dr. Ken Chilton  
of the Ochs Center will make a  
presentation on the results of  
the Gang Task Force study

**Mayor's Conference Room**  
**City Hall**  
**3rd Floor**  
**101 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street**

# August Calendar of Events

**Wednesday August 1**

10:00am – 11:00am	Board of Zoning Appeals
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**Thursday August 2**

9:00am – 10:00am	Environmental Court
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Alton Park Development Corporation
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Glenwood Neighborhood Watch
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Lookout Valley Neighborhood Association

**Sun August 5**

6:00pm – 7:00pm	Hemphill Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Shepherd Community Council

**Monday August 6**

11:30am – 12:30pm	Friends of East Brainerd
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Spring Valley Charitable Corportion
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Northside/Cherokee Community Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Battery Heights Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Wheeler Avenue Neighbohrood Association
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Chattanooga Organized for Action
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Hill City Neighborhood Association
6:30pm – 7:30pm	East Lake Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Murray Hills Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Community Association of Historic St Elmo

**Tuesday August 7**

6:00pm – 7:00pm	Bushtown Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Shawnee Hills Neighborhood Association

**Wednesday August 8**

11:00am – 12:00pm	East Lake Senior Citizens
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**Thursday August 9**

9:00am – 10:00am	Environmental Court
6:00pm – 8:00pm	North Hixson Neighborhood Association
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Clifton Hills Improvement Committee
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Belvoir Neighborhood Association
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Sector 3 Community Policing Interactive Committee (CPIC)
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Fort Wood Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Cedar Hill Improvement League
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Martin Luther King Neighborhood Association

**Monday August 13**

1:00pm	Planning Commission Meeting
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Chattanooga Organized for Action
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Jefferson Heights Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Fairfax-Bagwell Neighborhood Association

**Tuesday August 14**

5:00pm – 6:00pm	Foxwood Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Indian Hills Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Sector 2 Community Policing Interactive Committee (CPIC)
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Glass Farms Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Alton Park Piney Woods Neighborhood Association
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Biltmore Neighborhood Association

**Thursday August 16**

9:00am – 10:00am	Environmental Court
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Brainerd Park North Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Southside Chattanooga Oak Hills Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Menlo Neighborhood Association
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Olde Town Brainerd Neighborhood Association

**Saturday August 18**

10:00am – 11:00am	Murray Hills Neighborhood Association
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**Monday August 20**

5:30pm – 6:30pm	Villages at Alton Park Neighborhood Watch
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Washington Hills Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	North Brainerd Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Avondale Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Chattanooga Organized for Action

**Tuesday August 21**

6:00pm – 7:00pm	Orchard Knob Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Hickory Creek Townhome Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Cloverale Neighborhood Association

**Thursday August 23**

9:00am – 10:00am	Environmental Court
4:30pm – 5:30pm	South Broad Redevelopment Group
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Woodmore Manor Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Glenwood Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Ridgedale Community Association

**Monday August 27**

6:00pm – 8:00pm	Chattanooga Organized for Action
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Oak Grove Neighborhood Association

**Thursday August 30**

9:00am – 10:00am	Environmental Court
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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