



A Newsletter from the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development



“Building Better Neighborhoods... Block By Block”

COMMON GROUND



Look Out for the World Changers

by Vanessa A. Jackson, Neighborhood Program Specialist

We are all familiar with the adage, “If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.” Most of the time, this adage proves true but in one instance it is definitely refuted.

Eleven years ago the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development entered into a partnership with World Changers, a ministry of the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, to perform free - yes, free home repair for qualifying homeowners. The department was met with some skepticism from a few local organizations and citizens. However, from the first year the organization has delivered on its commitment. The partnership has blossomed into one of the City’s most endearing and impactful programs that has now served more than 300 homeowners in the City of Chattanooga alone.

Youth from throughout the country between the ages of 12-21 continue to be the driving force behind this international mission and home repair ministry. Under the guidance and tutelage of adult supervision, the youth perform a variety of repairs such as interior and exterior painting, carpentry, porch repair and installation, column and ceiling repair, floor joist, ramp installation and more. Last summer World Changers repaired 32 homes within the city limits for qualifying low-



income citizens and disabled homeowners.

The department has been in preparation for this summer’s program which takes place July 9 - July 21. Now under the auspices of LifeWay Publishing, World Changers will perform repairs to 30-35 work sites. In order to execute a successful project, the department and World Changers engage in a critical planning process that includes a marketing strategy announcing the application period, site visits and selection, *continued on page 2*

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Neighborhood Services and Community Development

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They're Coming!

material and equipment procurement – just to name a few. Ironically, every year the department receives a flood of inquiries from individuals who missed the application deadline but are interested in finding out more about the program. If you or someone that you know would like to learn more or make application to next summer's program, you can call the department at 425-3700 and ask to be placed on the mailing list announcing the next open application period. Applications are available between January and the first week of March each year and the application period is advertised through various media outlets including the department's radio show "Neighborhood Talk," the department's website at www.chattanooga.gov and of course, this newsletter.

In spite of the rigorous marketing efforts and technical assistance workshops, seeing these youth volunteers in action is the best marketing tool yet. The department receives many inquiries from neighbors and interested passers-by during the weeks of the project.

If you should happen to encounter a World Changers crew at work this month, please take the time to let them



A World Changers crew of volunteers takes a break from work in the shade

know how much they are appreciated by your neighborhood association and the community at large. You may also want to acknowledge the impact they are making upon the lives of the homeowner as well as the example they are setting for youth throughout our city and our country. Of course, popsicles and cool drinks are also a great way to show your support!

Yes, the work is truly a testament to the impact that World Changers has made upon our city. Look out for World Changers, Chattanooga because they're coming!"



Beverly P. Johnson, Administrator

Administrator's Letter

The main topic for this month's Neighborhood Roundtable meeting is National Night Out. The Chattanooga Police Department has issued this statement:

"National Night Out is an annual event that strengthens neighborhood spirit and police community partnerships. It sends a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. We will have a new date in 2012. The National Night Out event is usually held the first Tuesday in August. This year the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police has decided that the state of Tennessee will recognize National Night Out on October 2nd 2012. The reason for the change is the cooler weather will make it easier for more people to participate in the planned activities."

I hope that representatives from your neighborhood can attend the Neighborhood Roundtable meeting on July 11 (see page 8) so that you may begin organizing your community's event for this important night. If you are unable to attend the roundtable, call the office of Crime Prevention at 643-5090 for more information, or contact your Neighborhood Relations Specialist for details.

The Future Is Ours *by Jacquelyn Benford, Intern to the Mayor's Office*

Children of all ages filled the Carver Recreational Center June 2 to eat, play games, listen to music, and meet service providers from area agencies. Everyone was peaceful as they came together not only as a community, but also as a family. It was an afternoon they would never forget.

The kick-off event "The Future is Ours," exemplifies the message that Chattanooga's Gang Task Force is trying to instill in the youth of the community.

"The main goal of the event was to launch the movement to provide young people with a better choice than their current choices," said Fred Houser, The Future Is Ours Outreach Coordinator. "Right now all they have to choose from are the choices the gang culture offers. It is a movement to redirect the energy and talent. This makes young people make more of an investment in themselves through education, employment, entrepreneurship, and other opportunities."

"We are building kids from within and showing them that the future is theirs. They need help seeing that. They need adults to spend some time with them and expose them to positive things outside of what they are used to," said Boyd Patterson, The Future Is Ours Coordinator. "When adults do this, it makes the kids search out what their purposes and strengths are. It helps them examine what they're good at and what they want to do in life. The goal is to develop them. To make them know they have a future and are worth being helped."

Patterson stressed the importance of having the children not only believe that they have this future, but to know it with conviction.

The Gang Task Force started The Future Is Ours initiative because the gang violence activity has reached what Houser calls the "crisis level." He says the crisis has been building since the early 2000s and culminated on December 24, 2011

when a mass shooting downtown ended with 9 people shot in what he calls, "Chattanooga's 9/11." Houser said, "It was the catalyst that moved people into accepting that this had become a crisis in the community. It pushed them into action. This is why we now have the public safety organization and commission."

The formation of the Gang Task Force led to events like "The Future is Ours" and to people taking a larger interest in the lives of the youth around them. "We are trying to reach out to at-risk youth by facilitating opportunities and celebrating their generation," said Patterson, "When I first started doing this, the idea was to bring services to the kids and help them overcome the barriers that prevent them from leading happy, healthy, productive lives."

The prevention and intervention kick-off included free lunch from The Bistro at the Beth, a live radio remote from Power 94, step shows by UTC Greek Organizations, and baseball and basketball games. There were 18 vendors on site, nearly 400 people were fed, and more than 250 t-shirts were given away. Sponsors included The City of Chattanooga, Brewer Media, Hope 4 the Inner City, and United Way of Greater Chattanooga.

For more information about "The Future is Ours," contact Boyd Patterson at patterson_b@chattanooga.gov or Fred Houser at houser_f@chattanooga.gov. You can also visit the TFIO website at www.thefutureisours.net.



Neighborly News from...

Historic Ferger Place

by Ty Armour, Neighborhood Relations Specialist

Life today in Ferger Place is not like it was at the turn of the century, but the area is still an island of tranquility and serenity. To enter Ferger Place today, you still must pass through the same stone shingle topped entrance posts as people did in early 1910. The original street lights are still standing just as they were years ago and an old hitching post remains as a reminder of the past. The entranceway still looks the same except the large wrought iron gates used at night to keep cattle from entering no longer exist.

The layout of Ferger Place was planned by the late Herman Ferger, a pioneer Chattanooga real estate man, who seized the opportunity of turning farm land into a unique and charming community. After the start of construction, Mr. Ferger had to persuade the city to allow Holly Street and Hickory Street to become dead ends to close off the community. A contest was held for the residents of the community to rename the streets. Mrs. O. K. Lebron won, naming the two streets Morning Side and Evening Side.

At Christmas time a huge tree was brought in and placed on one of the vacant lots in the community. Everyone had a part in decorating the tree. When darkness fell, they gathered together at the tree for the lightening of the candles, singing



of carols and the arrival of Santa Claus. Today Ferger Place celebrates with an open house Tour of Houses.

The residents today still take pride in Ferger Place, working to preserve the old houses in original condition.

The Historical Organization of Ferger Place was awarded funding through the 2010-2011 Neighborhood Partners Program to purchase house banners. The Association meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.



More History of Ferger Place

from [Wikipedia.com](#)

Ferger Place Historic District in Chattanooga, Tennessee was founded in 1910 as the first gated subdivision south of the Mason Dixon line. Founded by two wealthy investors, the Ferger Brothers, Ferger Place attracted higher class families including wealthy businessmen and government officials. Off of main street in east downtown Chattanooga, this 240 acre neighborhood includes a wide spectrum of architectural styles of homes and welcomes newcomers to its safety oriented community. The homes reflect an array of styles ranging from 1910 through the 1930s. The Historic Neighborhood is also known for its distinct 'U' shape of 69 beautiful homes. This neighborhood was especially attractive because of the industrial revolution that spread throughout the nation at the beginning of the 20th Century.

As many new styles of homes evolved, Ferger Place remained a getaway from the changing society and stayed true to its classic, post-Victorian style. Houses included porches, open rooms, high ceilings, and multiple windows. These Post-Victorian Architectural Styles specifically included: Craftsman Bungalow; Contemporary Prairie; Four Square; Dutch Colonial; Cottage Tutor Revival; and Italian Renaissance.

The Neighborhood represents the National Register of Historic Places in its rare architectural styles and community oriented appearance. The neighborhood also includes a private park for residents of Ferger Place. As one enters through the original pillars on both Morningside and Eveningside Drives, they quickly arrive at great understanding of the distinct style and historic vibe that the neighborhood puts off. The neighborhood recently celebrated its 100th Anniversary in 2010 and continues to represent the history of the City of Chattanooga.

Cloverdale Neighborhood Association

by Debbie Johnson, Neighborhood Relations Specialist

In late fall of 2008, a small group of residents in the Hixson area came together and formed the Cloverdale Neighborhood Association (CNA). They are still going strong and making great strides in 2012. They have stayed the course and built a solid foundation to support an extraordinary community association.

CNA developed a strategic plan that included increased participation in the association, improved communication and pride building within the community. They have utilized the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development's Neighborhood Partners Program over the last three years to address these three key goals: the first year they acquired meeting signs complete with inserts announcing events such as community yard sales; the second year CNA's project was a periodic newsletter publication; this past year the Cloverdale Neighborhood Association designed and installed sign toppers.

The CNA team works tirelessly to ensure the monthly meetings are fun yet very informative. The topics range from local business offerings, governmental services, social services, to how to care for aged family members. CNA works consistently on building partnerships with local businesses by encouraging the patronage of the community as well as having representatives attend the meetings to introduce businesses and services. But above all, this association has developed a deep fellowship. In 2008 they were people who lived next door to each other. Today, in 2012 they are neighbors. That is what a successful vibrant community is all about.

The Cloverdale Neighborhood Association meets at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Stuart Heights Baptist Church, 3208 Hixson Pike.



Avondale Neighborhood Association

by Karen D. Clay, Neighborhood Relations Specialist

Avondale Neighborhood Association has been in existence for a number of years working for the betterment of the community. The association works closely with Eastside Improvement Incorporated, Multi Youth Training Development, schools, business and churches. Some of the members of the association are very active in the activities hosted by the recreations centers such as "The Forever Growing Exercising Class," senior activities, computer classes and garden techniques. Lucille Wright, Vice President of the association, aspires to continue to build a strong working relationship with the Chattanooga

Police Department, stakeholders and area businesses. She is very passionate about keeping the neighborhood clean, free of debris and litter and yards well manicured.

In 2011, Avondale Neighborhood Association applied for funding from the department's Neighborhood Partners Program to purchase an informational sign to be placed at the Avondale Recreation Center. The goal was to increase community awareness and participation in upcoming events as well as monthly neighborhood meetings and other

activities. Since installation, the sign has been a great asset in spreading the word regarding various activities and has sparked a sense of pride for the association and its residents.

The association is very active and participates in National Night Out, Grassroots Health Fair, neighborhood clean-ups and the Day of Service. The association welcomes all who wish to work to showcase their pride in the community. Avondale meets the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Avondale Recreation Center at Dodson Avenue and Wilcox Boulevard. The president, John Lewis, welcomes your participation, input and suggestions.

What is Outdoor Chattanooga?

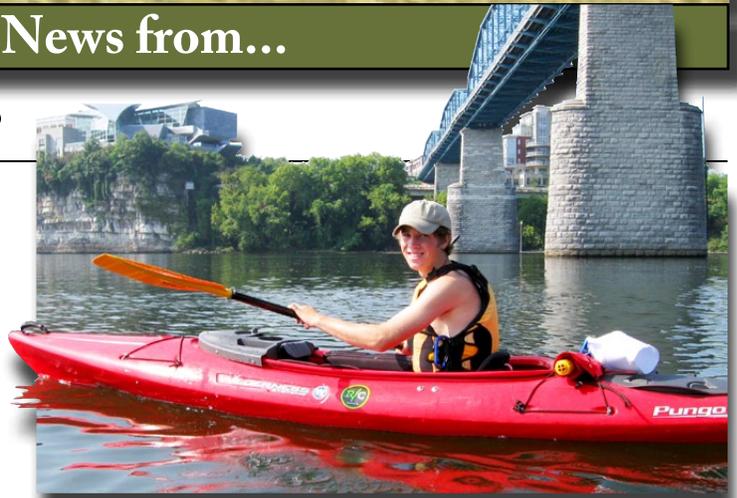
by Sunny Rawlings, Outdoor Chattanooga Office Coordinator

Most Chattanoogaans have a sense of how lucky we are to live surrounded by mountains, rivers, and abundant greenspaces, but how many of us really understand just how much there is to do outdoors?

Pockets of outdoor enthusiasts have known for decades that Chattanooga is a great place to play. If the general population is just now learning what Chattanooga's outdoors has to offer, chances are that they've heard about it through the City of Chattanooga Parks and Recreation Department's Outdoor Chattanooga Division.

Outdoor Chattanooga and its programming arm, OutVenture, operate with the knowledge that when people get outside to hike, fish, canoe, climb, hunt, or bicycle, they not only improve their physical and mental health, but also the health of the community, economy, and natural environment. People who play outdoors care about the outdoors. Physical activity generates community activity, and a wealth of opportunities to play outside draw people to the city to live and work.

Outdoor Chattanooga's Coolidge Park Visitors Center is a great resource for the community to connect with the outdoors. As guests walk into the Gold Level LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Certified building, they have access to informational materials and the opportunity to speak with the Outdoor Chattanooga staff about where to hike, bike, kayak, climb and enjoy the outdoors. The center is also home to a station in the City's new Bike Chattanooga Bicycle Transit System, which will be the first large scale bicycle sharing system in the southeastern U.S.



Enjoying an Outdoor Chattanooga Downtown Kayak Adventure

Outdoor Chattanooga hosts programs, activities and events all year round. Visitors can make reservations for a Downtown Kayak Adventure, attend a free workshop on backpacking or take a Street Smarts Safe Cycling Seminar. Large competitive events, like the Head of the Hooch Rowing Regatta and the Chattanooga Waterfront Triathlon rely on Outdoor Chattanooga for logistical assistance. Outdoor Chattanooga's Outdoor Expo & Gear Swap, which happens each spring, turns Coolidge Park into a festival of outdoor play, outfitting and conservation.

Outdoor Chattanooga's OutVenture programs make their home at the City of Chattanooga's Greenway Farm. Whether searching for a outing for the family or your entire neighborhood association, OutVenture offers a wide variety of programs, including whitewater paddling classes, canoe trips, sea kayak trips, climbing clinics and guided hikes.

With the short invitation, "Come out and play!" Outdoor Chattanooga pulls people off the couch and into the outdoors. The best place to start is on the Web. Visit www.outdoorchattanooga.com or find us on [Facebook](#).



Tips for Summer Yard Maintenance

from DIYnetwork.com

Check your trees for dead hanging limbs that you might need to cut away. Thunderstorms are frequent during the summer and tree limbs can do a great deal of damage. Also, prune any plants that might interfere with your AC condenser and trim bushes that might be too close to the house.

Trim any bushes. If left untrimmed, they can trap moisture and they invite termites. Keeping bushes trimmed can also eliminate potential hiding places for burglars or other unwanted visitors.

Vines come from the ground and grow on the house. Creepy crawlies come from the ground, too, and they can use those vines to get into your house. Vines also trap moisture against the house and can eat away the mortar in between your bricks, jeopardizing the stability of your exterior walls.

So, while vines might be pretty they are not good for your house and you should trim them back regularly. If you really want to keep the vines hanging around, here's a tip — install a garden trellis next to your house. They come in a variety of sizes and they keep vines away from your foundation.

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

JULY NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE

July 11, 2012

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall
101 East 11th Street, 3rd Floor

National Night Out

Sgt. Wayne Jefferson, Jr.

Chattanooga Police Department

Police departments throughout Tennessee, including Chattanooga, are changing the date of National Night Out from August 7 to October 2. Come find out what plans are being made and what your association needs to do to plan for this event

Drivers Education

Caroline Johnson

Public Works

Learn about the low cost City sponsored Drivers Education classes being offered at locations across the City. This program fills up so fast they have to keep adding new classes and locations!

Call 425-3700 for more information

Driver Education Fall 2012

TDOT Traffic Management Center

7500 Volkswagen Drive

4 consecutive Saturdays 9:00 - 4:45 each day
September 8, 15, 22 & 29 2012

The Public Library Downtown

1001 Broad Street

Monday through Thursday 9:00 - 4:45 each day
October 8-11, 2012 (HCDE Fall Break)

Hixson Community Center

5400 School Drive

4 consecutive Saturdays 9:00 - 4:45 each day
October 27, November 3, 10 & 17, 2012

Call 643-7011 or 311 for more information

HELP HONOR OUR VETERANS!

Do you know a veteran?

Honor him or her on this Fourth of July with a seat plaque inside Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium Chattanooga's Memorial to those who have served our country.

Call (423) 642-TIXS (8497)

for information

Email us your stories, photos, videos, and other remembrances at ihaveastoryproject1111@gmail.com.

July Calendar of Events

Sunday July 1

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

Monday July 2

6:00pm – 7:00pm	Spring Valley Charitable Corporation
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Northside/Cherokee Community Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Battery Heights Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Wheeler Avenue Neighborhood 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 July 3

6:00pm – 7:00pm	Shawnee Hills Neighborhood Association
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Wednesday July 4

10:00am – 11:00am	Board of Zoning Appeals
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Thursday July 5

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

Monday July 9

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 July 10

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

Wednesday July 11

11:00am – 12:00pm	East Lake Senior Citizens
1:00pm – 2:30pm	Neighborhood Roundtable

Thursday July 12

9:00am – 10:00am	Environmental Court
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Churchville Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Southside/ Cowart Place Neighborhood Association

Thursday July 12

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
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
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Historical Organization of Ferger Place

Monday July 16

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

Tuesday July 17

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

Thursday July 19

9:00am – 10:00am	Environmental Court
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Brainerd Park North Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Missionary Ridge 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
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Highland Park Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Lake Chickamauga Association

Monday July 23

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

Wednesday July 25

10:00am – 11:00am	Demolition Hearing
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Thursday July 26

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

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