



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

## “Guten Tag, VW!”

*A Letter from Mayor Ron Littlefield*

That billboard near Gunbarrel Road says it all. It translates from German into “Good Day, VW!” And it is indeed a whole new day for the Chattanooga area.

When it was announced July 15 that Volkswagen will build its United States assembly plant in Chattanooga – the largest single manufacturing investment ever – our citizens celebrated for 1 billion reasons – that’s how much VW will spend on a plant that will bring more than 2,000 jobs to our area, in addition to employing thousands of other support and supplier positions.

Luring VW to Chattanooga couldn’t have happened without vision, partnerships and a lot of hard work.

The vision was to transform an old TNT plant site into a modern industrial megasite that would attract an industry giant like VW. With its 1,350 acres, the Enterprise South Industrial Park is perfect for VW, which will begin production in 2011.

The spirit of partnership was an enormous catalyst on the road to success. City and



*From l to r: Hamilton County Mayor Claude Ramsey; Stefan Jacoby, President & CEO, Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.; Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredesen; Mayor Ron Littlefield*

County government worked closely with business and Chamber of Commerce leaders. Other important partners were the Governor, Senators, Representatives and other legislators and advocates.

Attracting VW to invest in our community was hard work, and it was accomplished through the dedication of many people. But in the

words of Stefan Jacoby, president and CEO of Volkswagen Group of America Inc., the deciding factor was more about intangibles: “It was based on something inside our guts and hearts” – that Chattanooga’s values are compatible with those at Volkswagen.

Chattanooga and Volkswagen have a lot in common. Both of us are serious about environmental sustainability and 21st Century manufacturing. Environmental responsibility is a core value of the Volkswagen Group. The company’s focus on sustainable mobility and environmentally responsible manufacturing are right in line with Chattanooga’s strong environmental commitment.

Now the real work begins. Let’s take VW from ground to GO!

“Building Better Neighborhoods... Block By Block”

# COMMON GROUND



### Inside This Issue:

Guten Tag, VW .....	1
Neighborhood Partners .....	2
World Changers.....	2
Warner Park Re-Opens.....	3
The Administrator .....	3
Firefighters Food Drive.....	4
National Night Out.....	4
Neighorly News .....	5, 6, 7
Calendar of Events.....	8

### Neighborhood Services and Community Development

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

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## Neighborhood Partners Program Applications Available

The Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development announces the availability of funding for the Neighborhood Partners Program (NPP). In keeping with Mayor Ron Littlefield's commitment to "nourish neighborhoods," funding is available for projects that focus on neighborhood development, safety and beautification efforts. Proposed projects must demonstrate civic participation and create community-based solutions that will substantially improve Chattanooga neighborhoods as well as nurture relationships among neighbors.

# Neighborhood Partners Program

Eligible applicants are neighborhood associations or civic organizations located within the Chattanooga City limits.

Neighborhood Partners Program (NPP) guidelines and application are available at the Neighborhood Services and Community Development office at City Hall or online at [www.chattanooga.gov](http://www.chattanooga.gov).

Contact Tony Sammons, Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development at 425-3700 for more information. Application deadline is Friday, October 3, 2008 at 4 p.m.

## World Changers Are Back

*by Vanessa Jackson, Neighborhood Program Specialist*

As you drive or walk through some of the neighborhoods in Chattanooga, you will notice that many of them show signs of renewal. Some whole blocks even look brighter.

The facelift that you notice is due to the work of World Changers. A ministry of the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, World Changers has become a great friend and even a rescuer for many residents of our City by providing free construction and home repair

work for qualifying seniors, disabled and low income residents. In many cases, World Changers has alleviated a major financial burden for the owners of property in need of crucial repairs.

This year, Chattanooga was fortunate to have approximately 600 World Changers volunteers in Chattanooga from July 12-26. During those two weeks, World Changers repaired 56 homes. Supervised youth from cities throughout the country performed interior and exterior painting, porch repair, roofing and various carpentry work. All adult and youth volunteers pay their own lodging expenses to participate in the project. Funding for the building material, equipment and supplies was appropriated by The Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant administered by the City of Chattanooga Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development and awarded to Front Porch Alliance.

Partnership is the key to all successful community revitalization efforts and certainly this project is no exception. Brainerd Baptist Church provided the lodging for this year's volunteers. Lunches and snacks were provided by various churches from throughout the city.

World Changers chose LEAP as the theme for the summer 2008, and true to the meaning and action of the word the youth volunteers jumped at the challenge to make a tangible difference in the quality of life for homeowners in the City of Chattanooga as well as all of us who benefit from the renewed vibrancy and revival of our neighborhoods. And to top it all off, World Changers will be returning to Chattanooga in summer 2009. They are always welcome in our neighborhoods!



## Warner Park Re-Opens

After a much anticipated renovation, Warner Park is now open. The completely renovated softball fields and softball complex facilities were dedicated at a ceremony on July 11. The grand opening celebration of the new championship softball facilities marked another milestone in the City's commitment to returning Warner Park, one of Chattanooga's oldest public parks and recreation centers, to its original grandeur.

Warner Park was established in 1907 and called Olympia Park. It was named Warner Park around 1912 after Commissioner J. H. Warner. Through the years, it has been home to a rollercoaster, a shooting range, greenhouse and a racehorse track.

The 38 acre Warner Park has been in desperate need of a major renovation to adequately meet the needs and interests of our community. For years, the park's softball facilities

accommodated local youth and college programs and served as the venue of choice for

competitions such as the annual spring fling and various SEC and Southern Conference Tournaments. These events bring thousands of visitors into our city each year and now, with the addition of four new fields, Chattanooga will have a total of five championship-level softball fields at the park. The estimated economic impact from Warner Park's new softball facility will generate between \$2.5 - \$3 million within the next year alone. Make Warner Park a destination and see the changes for yourself. You will be pleased.

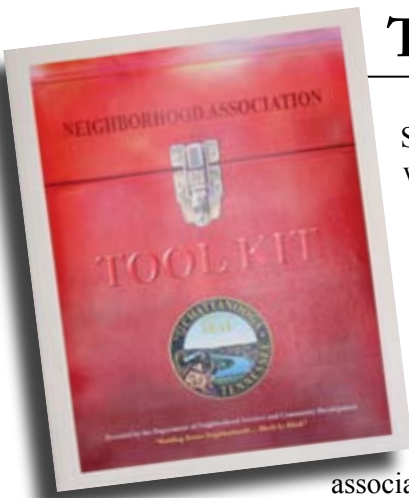


## The Neighborhood Association Registry

We're looking for new neighborhood associations! The Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development has begun updating its registry of associations within the Chattanooga city limits. The registry helps communicate information to association officers about upcoming events, programs and provides city council members contact information for their districts.

Associations that have not submitted updated information should re-register. Associations that have never registered are strongly encouraged to. To register your association, go to [www.chattanooga.gov/Neighborhood\\_Services/86\\_4074.htm](http://www.chattanooga.gov/Neighborhood_Services/86_4074.htm) and follow the instructions for submitting the form, or call 425-3700.

For neighborhoods considering forming a new association, we have developed the Neighborhood Association Tool Kit. Residents interested in organizing a neighborhood association should contact a Neighborhood Relations Specialist at 425-3700.



## A Letter from the Administrator

As I write this letter, World Changers are all over Chattanooga doing great things for residents in need. They are some of the hardest working and most inspirational young people you will ever meet. It is truly a joy to see their smiling faces and witness the happiness they bring as they help make Chattanooga a great place to live.

The grand reopening of Warner Park and the new look at the Zoo will provide Chattanoogans with a great place to play. It will bring visitors to our city to play as well.

Great excitement has filled the air with the announcement that Volkswagen will be building their new plant at Enterprise South. With the additional jobs and boost it will bring to our economy, it will certainly help make Chattanooga a great place to work.

This newsletter is filled with lots of ways you can get involved to help make Chattanooga a great place to live, work and play. National Night Out, the Fire Department's food drive or Sweet Diversity - a dessert reception, are just a few ways to meet or help your neighbors. Great things are happening in Chattanooga because great people live, work and play here. It takes all of you to help us "Build Better Neighborhoods... Block by Block."



*Beverly P. Johnson, Administrator*

## Chattanooga Firefighters to the Rescue...with Food!

Rescuing people from burning homes and car wrecks is just another day in the office for Chattanooga firefighters. Now they are branching out to help rescue people who need help with feeding their families.

It started last year in August, when the Chattanooga Area Food Bank issued a public appeal for food donations to replenish its supply. The Chattanooga Fire Department answered the call on short notice with a three day food drive, collecting more than 7,500 pounds of food from generous citizens.

Traditionally, the food supply dwindles in the Food Bank's pantry during the summer months. This year, food donations have dropped at an alarming rate, while demand has increased. With high gas prices and an ailing economy, more and more families are truly struggling to keep food on the table. Demand is up 12 percent this year for the Food Banks' "Emergency Food Boxes." The demand also increases with the opening of a new school year. Last year, the Food Bank provided more than 54,000 "sack packs" full of nutritious, kid-friendly food items to children who



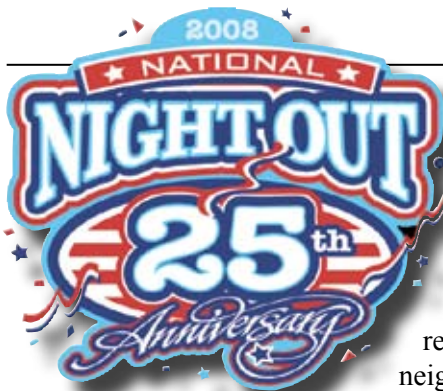
*Firefighters collect donations for last year's food drive at Fire Station 10*

don't have guaranteed meals for the weekend. Unfortunately, Food Bank President Clare Sawyer says that so far, donations are down by one million pounds from last year.

This year, Chattanooga firefighters have expanded the food drive to a full week. On August 4 – 10, 2008, the firefighters will be collecting donated food items at all 17 fire stations in Chattanooga. It will start on a Monday and end on a Sunday.

How can you help? You can donate individually, or better yet, organize a food drive at your church, synagogue or mosque. After your church service, members of your congregation can stop by their neighborhood fire station on the way home and drop off their food items. Canned goods and other non-perishable food items are needed. Specifically, they could use canned pasta, canned tuna or salmon, tomato/spaghetti sauce, flour, corn meal, oatmeal, grits, and chili/stew.

It's a quick, easy way to make a real difference for people in need. If you have any questions, call Bruce Garner with the Chattanooga Fire Department at 421-4278.



## National Night Out

National Night Out is Tuesday, August 5, 2008. Neighborhoods across the country will be participating in the 25th Annual National Night Out. The event provides a unique opportunity for Chattanooga's neighborhoods to join forces with thousands of other communities across the country in promoting partnership with the police department and residents.

Traditionally, neighborhoods observe the event with a display of outdoor lights and front porch vigils. Some neighborhoods organize block parties, cookouts, representation from local police with demonstrations and more. The goals are to strengthen neighborhood spirit, reduce crime and form community and police partnerships.

Locally, the event is coordinated by the Chattanooga Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit. To find out if your community is participating, contact Officer Jennifer Davis, Crime Prevention Unit, at 643-5382.

## Neighborly News from...

### Bal Harbor Neighborhood Association *by Karen Clay, Neighborhood Relations Specialist*

Bal Harbor Neighborhood Association is located within City Council District 3 off Highway 58. Their neighborhood association was established in 1976 by residents to address specific issues and to come together as a community. The association formally meets monthly at various homes. Tom Leach has served as president for two years, and he is very excited about working with the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development. The association impacts about 150 homeowners on the north side of Webb Road that includes Bal Harbor, Harbor Hills, Lake Haven, Shoreline and Inlet Harbor.

Currently, the association is focused on reaching several goals for the community: Spring and Fall picnic, Neighborhood Watch, Annual Christmas Party and Annual Clean-up Day. Their goal is to promote a clean, attractive and safe community. In December, Bal Harbor was awarded funding through the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development's Neighborhood Partners Program to do a beautification project that included planting some Yoshino Cherry Trees, Wax Leaf Ligustrum and Red Knock-Out Roses to enhance the beauty of the neighborhood. Beautiful work, Bal Harbor!



### Traffic Calming in Clifton Hills and Cedar Hill *by Debbie Johnson, Neighborhood Relations Specialist*

The communities of Clifton Hills and Cedar Hill are celebrating the installation of traffic calming speed humps in their areas. The Clifton Hills Improvement Committee and the Cedar Hill Improvement League contacted the City of Chattanooga's Traffic Engineering Department to learn about the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. The Traffic Engineer's office worked with the individual groups

and guided them through the petition process. Due to the heavy demand for speed humps and the related costs, there is a long list, but it was well worth the wait. Ms. Blevins, resident of Clifton Hills said, "Aren't they beautiful!"

The Neighborhood Traffic Management Program Guidelines can be downloaded from the City of Chattanooga web site or call 311 and a copy will be sent to you.



Neighborly News from...

**South Chattanooga Association of Neighbors** *by Debbie Johnson, Neighborhood Relations Specialist*



*Members of South Chattanooga Association of Neighbors provide their input at the Regional Planning Agency's Alton Park Master Plan meeting.*

In August 2007, a group of caring neighbors came together to form a neighborhood association to bring together all the residents and organizations of the Alton Park community. They worked on bylaws, logo and their mission. The South Chattanooga Association of Neighbors (SCAN) mission is to present a united voice to speak to and for the community. They believe that by uniting their efforts they can work to obtain and maintain a safe, clean, caring neighborhood in which residents can safely live and work in harmony. Most recently SCAN participated in the Regional Planning Agency's open house for community input to update the 2008 Alton Park Master Plan.

The South Chattanooga Association of Neighbors invites you to join with them on the third Monday of every month, at the Bethlehem Center, 200 W. 38th Street, at 6 p.m. and share your vision and ideas on how to make and maintain the Alton Park Community as a healthy and vibrant place of choice.

**Education, Arts & Culture**

Monday, June 9, Education, Arts & Culture's Connecting the Dots Virtual Summer School began its six week session. This pilot program is in partnership with the Hamilton County Virtual Classroom and Parks & Recreation. In April, Senator Andy Berke awarded EAC a state grant for \$6,000 which paid for the individual courseware licenses as well as awarding each student \$50 who successfully completes his/her coursework. Five students from Howard High School and six students from Brainerd High School were chosen by their guidance counselors to participate in this inaugural program.

Debi Crabtree, coordinator of Hamilton County's Virtual Classroom, was responsible for arranging the technical aspects of the program and interfacing with the City's Information Services Department. Transportation is a key factor in the students' participation in this pilot summer school, and EAC thanks Tom Dugan and CARTA for providing complimentary bus passes to these students. On a similar note, Kevin McNelly and the churches/people associated with Chattanooga Matters donated their time and efforts and are providing lunches for these eleven students five days a week for the entire six weeks.

Thank you to everyone who is investing in the education of young people!

**Parks and Recreation**

The City of Chattanooga's Parks and Recreation Department, Department of Education, Arts and Culture, and Alexian Brothers Senior Neighbors are working together to provide year-round, on-going recreational and educational programs at seven of the City's neighborhood recreation centers.

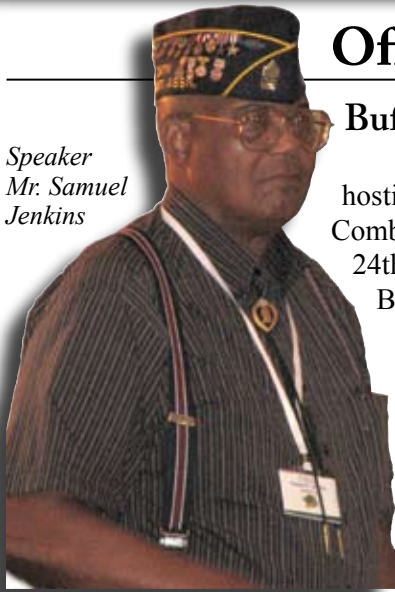
Surveys are being distributed to obtain community input on the kinds of activities and programs that can serve the needs and interests of the area's growing senior adult population. Programs will be provided in the areas of fitness, music, dance, crafts, Bible study, table games, cooking, special classes, social functions, sports, volunteer opportunities and outings. Recreation center locations for the new senior programs will be:

- Brainerd ..... 425-3600
- Carver ..... 697-1280
- East Lake ..... 867-4498
- Frances B. Wyatt .... 757-5443
- John A. Patten ..... 825-5955
- Shepherd..... 855-2697
- South Chattanooga 425-3550



*Senior Olympian Irene Arnold*

## Neighborly News from...



Speaker  
Mr. Samuel  
Jenkins

### Office of Multicultural Affairs

#### Buffalo Soldier Regiment Reunion

Last month, the City of Chattanooga had the privilege of hosting the 22nd Annual Reunion of the 24th Infantry Regimental Combat Team Association and the 24th Women's Auxiliary. The 24th Infantry was organized in 1869 and composed of enlisted Black soldiers, either veterans of the U.S. Colored Troops or freed slaves. The unit was one of the Buffalo Soldier regiments and served the United States valiantly from the Spanish-American War until the desegregation of the military in 1948. In August 1995, the 24th was reactivated, thus honoring one of the "most combat-proven historically Black units."

On Friday, July 11, the Office of Multicultural Affairs sponsored the welcoming ceremonies for this elite regiment at the Imperial Ballroom of the Chattanooga Choo Choo. Mayor Ron Littlefield and many other city officials were in attendance as the City recognized the service of these individuals.



### Sweet Diversity A Dessert Reception



*Coming to Your Neighborhood!*

#### District 5

Thursday, August 28

Brainerd Recreation Center • 1010 N. Moore Rd.

#### District 4

Thursday, September 18

Heritage House • 1428 Jenkins Rd.

## Chattanooga Faith-Based & Community Partnerships

### Partnering At Its Best!

City and County agencies are partnering to provide a positive alternative to the attraction of gangs. Agencies participating are Parks & Recreation, Public Works, Office of Multicultural Affairs, General Services, Front Porch Alliance and the Mayor's Office. These agencies are providing jobs for 74 teens ages between 16-18. Mayor Littlefield took the lead by implementing this seven week Summer Youth Program (SYP).

The program would not have been as successful if it had been just job a placement service. The SYP is a training ground, teaching workplace expectations as well as responsibility. When a youth is insubordinate, instead of ejecting them from the program immediately, the placement coordinator meets with them to examine the situation and coach them through it.

One at-risk youth told the placement coordinator that he can't run the streets at night because he has to get in bed so he can get up for work the next day. He liked being able to tell his peers that he has a job to go to in the morning.

Working together works!

## Become One of Chattanooga's Best & Brightest

The Chattanooga Police Department is actively seeking qualified applicants to join our ranks. If you have integrity, strong character, strong communication skills and a commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of our citizens, we're looking for you.



We offer...

- A Challenging Career
- Paid Training
- Competitive Pay
- Advancement Opportunities
- Tuition Reimbursement

Chattanooga Police Department Recruiting Unit

423-643-5087 / 5088 / 5089

# COMMONGROUND

## August Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Division	Description
<b>August 2008</b>			
<b>4 Mon</b>	6:30P	■	East Lake Neighborhood Association Meeting
	6:30P	■	Hill City Neighborhood Association Meeting
	7:00P	■	Community Association of Historic St. Elmo Meeting
	7:00P	■	Murray Hills Neighborhood Association Board Meeting
<b>5 Tue</b>	5:00P	■	NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
<b>7 Thu</b>	10:00A	■	Environmental Court (Neighborhood Services)
	6:00P	■	Glenwood Neighborhood Watch Meeting
	6:00P	■	Missionary Ridge Neighborhood Association Meeting
	7:00P	■	Lookout Valley Neighborhood Association Meeting
<b>11 Mon</b>	1:00P	■	Regional Planning Agency Meeting
	6:00P	■	Hamilton Acres Neighborhood Association
<b>12 Tue</b>	6:00P	■	Sector 2 Community Policing Interactive Committee (CPIC)
	6:00P	■	Bushtown Neighborhood Association Meeting
	6:00P	■	Foxwood Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting
	6:00P	■	Lupton City Neighborhood Association Meeting
	6:00P	■	Glass Farms Neighborhood Association Meeting
<b>13 Wed</b>	10:00A	■	Board of Zoning Appeal Meeting
	11:00A	■	East Lake Senior Citizens Meeting
<b>14 Thu</b>	10:00A	■	Environmental Court (Neighborhood Services)
	7:00P	■	Cedar Hill Improvement League Meeting

<b>18 Mon</b>	6:00P	■	Avondale Neighborhood Association Meeting
	6:00P	■	North Brainerd Neighborhood Association Meeting
	6:00P	■	Washington Hills Neighborhood Association Meeting
<b>19 Tue</b>	6:00P	■	South Chattanooga Association of Neighbors Meeting
	6:00P	■	Orchard Knob Neighborhood Association Meeting
<b>21 Thu</b>	10:00A	■	Environmental Court (Neighborhood Services)
	6:00P	■	Menlo Park Neighborhood Association Meeting
	7:00P	■	East Lake Community Council Meeting
<b>25 Mon</b>	7:00P	■	Highland Park Neighborhood Association Meeting
	6:00P	■	Chattanooga Neighborhood Association Council (CNAC)
<b>26 Tue</b>	6:30P	■	Sylvan Drive Neighborhood Association
	4:00P	■	Community Anti-Drug Coalition Across Hamilton County
<b>27 Wed</b>	10:00A	■	Demolition Hearings
	11:30A	■	Court Watch Partners
<b>28 Thu</b>	10:00A	■	Environmental Court (Neighborhood Services)
	5:30P	■	South Broad Redevelopment Group, Inc. Meeting
	6:00P - 7:00P	■	Glenwood Neighborhood Association Meeting
	7:00P	■	Ridgedale Neighborhood Association Meeting

■ Neighborhood Relations     ■ Code Enforcement  
■ Neighborhood Association     ■ Other

For complete information on these events visit our Calendar of Events at [http://www.chattanooga.gov/Neighborhood\\_Services/86\\_CalendarofEvents.htm](http://www.chattanooga.gov/Neighborhood_Services/86_CalendarofEvents.htm)

### Recycling Schedule

**Area 1: East of Hwy 153 and West of I-75**

August 6    September 3    October 8    November 5    December 3

**Area 2: East of I-75, West of Hwy 153, and East of Crest Road, Campbell Street, and Bonny Oaks Drive**

August 13    September 10    October 15    November 12    December 10

**Area 3: West of Crest Road, Campbell Street, and Bonny Oaks Drive, West of Hwy 153, and South of the Tennessee River**

August 20    September 17    October 22    November 19    December 17

**Area 4: North of the Tennessee River and West of Hwy 153**

August 27    September 24    October 29    November 26    December 31

### Brush Pickup Schedule

**Area 1: East of Hwy 153 and West of I-75**

Collection begins on the first Monday of each month

**Area 2: East of I-75, West of Hwy 153, and East of Crest Road, Campbell Street, and Bonny Oaks Drive**

Collection begins on the second Monday of each month

**Area 3: West of Crest Road, Campbell Street, and Bonny Oaks Drive, West of Hwy 153, and South of the Tennessee River**

Collection begins on the third Monday of each month

**Area 4: North of the Tennessee River and West of Hwy 153**

Collection begins on the fourth Monday of each month

**Save The Date**  
**October 9-10, 2008**



**Neighborhoods Conference**

**Chattanooga Convention Center**  
**1150 Carter Street • Chattanooga, Tennessee**

For more information Call (423) 425-3700

[www.chattanooga.gov](http://www.chattanooga.gov)