



A Newsletter from the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development



Celebrating Chattanooga Neighborhoods

COMMON GROUND



Neighborhood Leadership Institute Commences

The Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development, in partnership with Chattanooga State Technical Community College, is pleased to announce the launch of the Neighborhood Leadership Institute. The purpose of the Neighborhood Leadership Institute is to strengthen leadership in the community by providing skills training to leaders and potential leaders of neighborhood groups and community organizations.

Beverly Johnson, Administrator for the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development says "A number of neighborhood associations are experiencing a change in leadership, and many of the leaders in place have been there for a number of years. This is an attempt to identify emerging leaders who could serve the community where they live."

According to Debbie Adams, Assistant Vice President of Continuing Education and *continued on page 2*

Neighborhood LEADERSHIP Institute

A Letter from the Mayor

A lot of people will be asking about the Toyota plant in the coming weeks and wondering why Chattanooga's Enterprise South wasn't chosen. I can't answer that right now, but I do know we have left no stone unturned in competing for this project. The city, county and state of Tennessee put together an aggressive incentives package, and Toyota seemed very satisfied with what we offered. I can't say enough good things about the State, the economic development office, the governor, and all of the staff there.



I believe one of the lasting benefits from the project is the level of team work established among the more than 30 organizations that played a role during the competitive process. We've learned a lot from this experience. We are fortunate to have a team that includes people at the *continued on page 3*

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Application Deadline:

March 23, 2007

call (423) 425-3700
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[www.chattanooga.gov/
Neighborhood_Services](http://www.chattanooga.gov/Neighborhood_Services)

Neighborhood Leadership Institute Commences *(continued from page 1)*

Chattanooga's Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development. We recognize that by providing quality training to participants in the Neighborhood Leadership Institute, it will enhance their existing skills and provide new skills to make them more effective leaders thereby resulting in a positive impact upon the communities where they live and work."

Jill Murphy, Neighborhood Development Planner with the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development, was instrumental in putting together the Leadership Institute. She has worked closely with the department's Neighborhood Relations Coordinators and Chattanooga State staff to develop a curriculum that will best address the needs of existing neighborhood organizations memberships, but more importantly will generate new and effective leadership in Chattanooga's communities. She explains, "Over the past year, there has been a lot of talk about the involvement of the younger generation in the neighborhood groups, many of whom do not want to step into leadership roles because they are not confident they have the necessary

Community Outreach for Chattanooga State, "Chattanooga State is excited to have the opportunity to enter into a training partnership with the City of

skills to lead. The Neighborhood Leadership Institute wants to address these issues by attracting new and younger members to get involved, as well as give them the skills and confidence needed to take on leadership roles."

City staff and Chattanooga State instructors will teach the classes, which will include such topics as Effective Communication, Conflict Resolution, Funding Application and Project Management, among others. Classes will begin with an orientation in April and end with a recognition

ceremony at the annual Neighborhoods and Codes Conference on October 19, 2007, where participants will present a project they have completed during the course of the training. A joint certificate

"Over the past year, there has been a lot of talk about the involvement of the younger generation in the neighborhood groups..."

Jill Murphy

from the City of Chattanooga and Chattanooga State Technical Community College will be awarded to those completing the 20 hour course.

To qualify for application, participants in the

Neighborhood Leadership Institute must be an active member of a neighborhood association or community organization, or in the process of starting a new group inside the city limits of Chattanooga. Three (3) community members from each council district will be chosen by an independent selection committee, for a total of 27 participants. A required fee of \$35 for each participant will cover instruction for all 8 class sessions and materials needed. The deadline to submit an application is March 23, 2007. Call (423) 425-3700 for more information.

Neighborhood LEADERSHIP Institute

Class Schedule:

Orientation: April 23, 2007

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Session 1: April 30 | Government and Neighborhoods |
| Session 2: May 21 | Effective Meetings |
| Session 3: June 18 | Team Building for Success |
| Session 4: July 9 | Keeping Neighborhoods Safe |
| Session 5: July 30 | Effective Communication (1hr) & Conflict Resolution (1hr) |
| Session 6: August 20 | Strategic Planning |
| Session 7: September 10 | Basic Funding Application (1hr) & Project Management (1hr) |
| Session 8: October 1 | Engaging Stakeholders & Coalition Building |

Recognition Ceremony
and final project presentation at the
Annual Neighborhoods and Codes Conference:
October 19, 2007

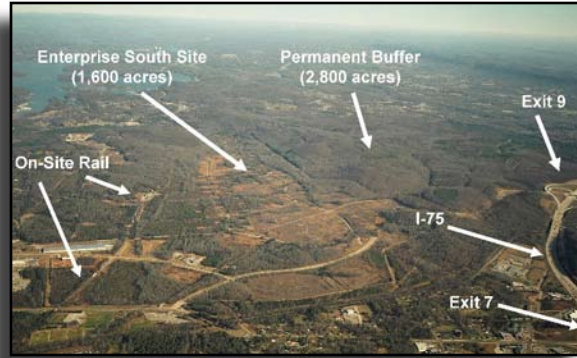
A Letter from the Mayor *(continued from page 1)*

federal, state, and local level. We have proven that we can cooperate in responding to some very challenging requests in an extremely short time frame. I applaud everyone for their dedication and determination in working this and other projects.

Someone always wants to point a finger of blame. If you're going to point the finger at anyone on this team, including the state, it should be a finger pointed at the people who made it happen and not at anyone who fell short in any way. This is the first time we've been a finalist in such a grand competition. That is no small accomplishment and teamwork was the key to our success. I've been involved in economic development for more than 30 years and have never seen such cooperation – it was a beautiful thing to watch.

Our economic development team is already focusing on what's next. We accelerated development at Enterprise South, and as a result we are extremely well positioned to

compete for other major projects. We have continued to aggressively market Enterprise South for small, medium, and large manufacturing operations. As a result, we have a number of projects in the pipeline and will continue to do everything we can to win them.



Aerial view of the Enterprise South site.

Meanwhile, we know what we have to do. We have to finish building a road from the new interchange across to highway 58 for which we already have federal funding available. We have to relocate some drainage ways on the sight. This pause gives us the opportunity to back up and take a breath before we proceed.

In the mean time, I want everyone to know that Chattanooga is growing and prospering. Last year we had a net gain in manufacturing jobs, which is something that hasn't happened in decades. Just because we didn't get this one prospect we shouldn't let that deflate us in any way. The best is yet to come for Chattanooga.

A Letter from the Administrator

Everyone here in the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development was deeply saddened by the loss of our friend, Jean Swafford, last month. Jean was such a force in the community, and people like her make it a joy to work with neighborhood relations and community development. Her efforts on behalf of Chattanooga communities will have an effect for years to come. We all extend our sympathy to her family.

Jean Swafford leaves a void in community leadership. With the launch of the Neighborhood Leadership Institute, we hope to assist Chattanooga communities in filling such vacancies with vibrant, skilled and capable neighborhood leaders such as Jean. It is an exciting partnership with Chattanooga State to educate our citizens and give them the tools they need to make themselves and their communities successful. The response has been very favorable so far, with many applications being requested. If you or someone you know would be interested in this course, by all means, don't hesitate. The deadline to receive applications is March 23. Don't miss it!

A couple of exciting events have taken place since our last newsletter. The first was *The Power of One* Mayors Luncheon with Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin. What a powerful and inspirational speaker she is, and it was a treat to hear her talk about Martin Luther King and the city of Atlanta. Combined with the recognition of Chattanooga's Living Legends, it was a wonderful celebration.



Beverly P. Johnson, Administrator

Another exciting event was the removal of the cornerstone from City Hall. Artifacts placed there by the city fathers nearly 100 years ago were in perfect condition and a rare glimpse into the history of Chattanooga. I hope that we can replace that cornerstone with a legacy of our own for future Chattanoogaans.

Habitat for Humanity Completes Shepard Park Project



The Shepard Park subdivision benefits from CDBG grants.

Habitat for Humanity recently finished an infrastructure project that was funded by the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development. Habitat received a 2005-2006 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of \$160,000 to install water and sewer connections to newly constructed homes in the Shepard Park subdivision (near the Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport). A portion of the funds offset road paving costs in the same area. Nine low-income families will benefit from the project by way of lower home purchase prices as well as a zero percent interest rate. Habitat for Humanity of Chattanooga has received several CDBG grants in years past. Habitat's policies forbid them from using federal grants on hard construction costs, so the grants have typically been used for items such as paving, lot acquisition, or utility installation.

Annual Lookout Valley Golf Tournament

Brown Acres Golf Course

Saturday, March 24, 2007

9:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

Four Player Select Shot • Choose Your Own Team

Afternoon Award program

Contact Ron Hughes at 825-5325 for more information

MRNA's Historic Committee Presents

The Second Annual Celebration of Missionary Ridge Heritage

Thursday, March 15th from 5:30 to 7:30

Missionary Ridge Fire Hall

All Missionary Ridge Residents Are Invited

Guest Speakers:

Jim Ogden, Park Historian

Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Parks

Daryl Black, Curator

Chattanooga Regional History Museum

Light Hors D'Oeuvres and Refreshments Served

We invite residents to share facts and memories and

bring additional pictures, documents, maps, etc.

Please RSVP by calling Ben Jones at 240-2100.

Save the Date

The 9th Annual Neighborhoods and Codes Conference

hosted by the

Department of Neighborhood Services and

Community Development

is set for

October 17-19, 2007

at the

Chattanooga Convention Center

**Mark your calendar for this special event
that is quickly earning the distinction of
being one of the superior training events of
its kind in the region**

In Memoriam

Jean Swafford

Chattanooga lost a much loved and respected member of the community last month. Jean Swafford was active in many organizations, but we at the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development knew her well through her involvement in the East Lake community, in particular as president of the East Lake Neighborhood Association and secretary for the Chattanooga Neighborhood Associations Council.

Jean moved to Chattanooga from Dayton, Tennessee 46 years ago. She retired in 2001 after spending 27 years teaching for the Hamilton County School system. Retirement didn't mean slowing down for Jean, though. In addition to the East Lake organizations, she was a member of the Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association (CPAAA), Sector 2 Community Crime, Officer of Election for the Cedar

Hill Voting Precinct, Chairperson of Court Watch Partners, served on the Chattanooga Police Officer Review Board, and was Curator of the East Lake Museum.

All of us working for the City of Chattanooga extend our sympathy to Jean's family. Her dedication and service to the community will be sorely missed; leaders like Jean are not easily replaced, and her bright spirit and kind manner has left a lasting impression on all that knew her.



Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin

The Power of One

On January 29th, Mayor Ron Littlefield hosted Mayor Shirley Franklin of Atlanta to speak at a sold out event: *The Power of One* Mayor's Luncheon at the Chattanooga Hotel.

The two mayors, professional friends for years, are both strong advocates of civil rights, neighborhoods and the homeless. Mayor Littlefield noted an award won by his friend and colleague, "On January 24, 2007 Mayor Franklin received the President's Award by the U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizing her as among the best of the best. The award focused on her energetic campaign to save the Dr. Martin Luther King papers from being auctioned. We are fortunate to have her heading the City of Atlanta - a city so important to the economic health of the South and our own city."

On June 26, 2006, Mayor Franklin led the effort to have the papers of Dr. Martin Luther King given to his alma mater, Morehouse College, instead of being sold at auction – raising 32 million dollars in just two weeks. "I never imagined I could contribute to the continuation of Dr. King's legacy in such a significant way. And I'm really humbled I was able to do anything to continue his legacy," said Mayor Franklin.

On the subject of Atlanta's Aquarium being competition for Chattanooga tourism, Mayor Littlefield quipped "Yes, but let them build a river!" to which Mayor Franklin responded "I'm working on that".

Afterward, the mayors joined Chattanooga's Living Legends for a community celebration in the historic M. L. King district at the Bessie Smith Hall.



Neighborhood Services and Community Development staff at the luncheon. L to R: Paula Coleman; Rod Morton; Alice Williams; Dana West; Tony Sammons; Jill Murphy; Anjenet Brown

Neighborhood News from...

Department of Education, Arts and Culture

The Second Annual Connecting the Dots Summit – Exploring the Arts through Social Issues

Allied Arts of Greater Chattanooga; Education, Arts & Culture, and the United Way of Chattanooga are once again working in partnership to present the 2nd Annual Connecting the Dots Summit. This year's summit will again focus on exploring the arts and how they interact with and among social concerns, with 4 distinct "hands-on" workshops including: Arts & Literacy; Arts & Social Issues; Arts & Economic Development; and Arts & Healing.

This year's keynote speaker will be Claudia Cornett, Ph.D., author of *Creating Meaning Through Literature and the Arts*. She is a Professor Emeritus at Wittenberg University and the recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Award. Dr. Cornett also created, produced and is featured in *Sounds Abound*, an instructional television series focused on early literacy broadcast on PBS stations.

"I am excited that the department of Education, Arts & Culture continues to be a part of this summit which is a catalyst for new and ongoing alliances in arts and social issues," states Missy Crutchfield, administrator of Education, Arts & Culture. "Mayor Littlefield continues his vision for Chattanooga as a leader in merging the arts and social issues. This is a very exciting time for our city."

Education, Arts & Culture Director of Development and Marketing Laurie Shipley adds, "I am elated that attendees will have the opportunity to hear this passionate and vibrant woman's message."



Mayor Littlefield speaks with Rick Lowe, founder of Project Houston and keynote speaker at last year's summit. Photo courtesy of Bill Shipley

The public is invited to attend. Admission is \$15 prior to March 30th (\$20 at the door). Registration begins at 7:45 a.m. Dr. Cornett's keynote speech will start at 8:50 a.m. Breakout sessions exploring art and social issues immediately follow. A panel discussion probing ideas created in the breakout sessions concludes the summit. Early morning refreshments and a box lunch will be provided; therefore, reservations should be made by Thursday, March 30th to Julie Tipton at (423) 756-2787 or jtipton@alliedartschattanooga.org. For more information about this year's summit, contact Laurie Shipley at (423) 400-3985.



Former Titan Eddie George

Parks and Recreation Department

Youth Health

A city-wide Youth Health Conference for Ages 13—20 will be held on Saturday, March 17th from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the New Monumental Baptist Church, at 901 Woodmore Lane. Former Titan Player and GetFitTN Spokesman Eddie George will be the keynote speaker.

There will be small group sessions on a wide range of teen health subjects and issues, information booths, food, and give-a-ways. The event is FREE and open to everyone but pre-registration is required. Register at any of the City's 14 Neighborhood Recreation Centers. For the recreation center nearest you, call 311. For

more information on the Youth Health Conference, call the Hamilton County Health Department's "TENN-der Care" Program at 209-8334.

Black History Spring Break Trip

March 19-23. co-sponsored by Glenwood and North Chattanooga Recreation Centers. Open to everyone ages 10 & Up. The group will travel to Birmingham, Alabama and visit the Non-Violence Museum and the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church. Call Jacqie Simpson at 697-1284 or Evelyn Snorton at 757-5447.

Outdoor Expo in Coolidge Park

March 31, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Exhibitors, clubs, outfitters, and everything you need to know about outdoor fun in our area.

Office of Multicultural Affairs

Chattanooga International Summit

On Friday, March 30, Chattanoogaans will gather at the University Center Auditorium, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga to discuss how we can better position our city in the emerging global community. Give your input about how Chattanooga can collaborate and compete internationally in the areas of business, culture & lifestyle, education, and the environment. The summit takes place from 8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. and is free and open to the public. The Chattanooga International Summit is held in conjunction with the SE Regional Sister Cities Conference *Global Friendship in Our Own Back Yard* taking place at UTC all weekend, with attendees from 5 states. Reservations are required due to limited seating, and must be made by March 20th.

An international lunch buffet will be offered at 12:15 in the Chattanooga Room, with welcoming comments from Chancellor Roger Brown. Mae Ferguson, President of Sister Cities International Board of Directors, will be on hand to acknowledge some special "citizen diplomats." The cost for the lunch is \$20 per person.

The event is sponsored by Chattanooga Sister Cities, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga State, Chamber of Commerce, City of Chattanooga, Hamilton County and Chattanooga Office of Multicultural Affairs. Visit <http://www.chattanoogasistercities.org/Summit/> for more information or call Eleanor Cooper, President of the Sister Cities Association, at (423) 624-1215.

McKamey Animal Center

Rabies Vaccination Clinics

The McKamey Animal Center announces the 2007 schedule of rabies vaccination clinics. Although the vaccinations are required by law for all dogs and cats, it's just the right thing to do to protect your pet and your community from the spread of rabies.

All clinics are from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. The inoculation charge is \$10, correct change requested and bring cats in carriers. City of Chattanooga pet tags are \$5 if the pet is spayed or neutered; \$25 if not.

These clinics are county-wide, for space purposes we will only list city clinic sites. You may call 209-8110 for more information.

Friday, April 20

Fire hall #5 - 809 S. Willow Street
 (Old) John A. Patten - 3202 Kellys Ferry Rd.
 21st Century Academy - 4201 Cherryton Drive
 Clifton Hills Elementary - 1815 E. 32nd Street
 Old Fire Hall Building - 4501 St. Elmo Avenue
 St. Martins Episcopal Church - 7547 E. Brainerd Rd.
 Humane Society - 212 N. Highland Park Avenue

Saturday, April 21

DuPont Elementary - 4134 Hixson Pike
 Chattanooga School for Liberal Arts- 6579 E. Brainerd Rd.
 Tyner Middle Academy - 6837 Tyner Road



Friday, April 27

Lookout Valley Middle/High - 350 Lookout Street

Saturday, April 28

Warner Park Field House - 1254 E. Third Street
 Hixson High - 5705 Middle valley Road
 Lakeside Academy - 4850 Jersey Pike
 Rivermont Elementary - 3330 Hixson Pike

SPECIAL RABIES CLINIC FOR CATS:

Thursday, April 26

Animal Clinic 23rd St - 2223 E. 23rd Street
 Brainerd hills Veterinary Hospital - 6724 E. Brainerd Rd.
 E. Brainerd Animal Hospital - 8848 E. Brainerd Rd.
 Shallowford Animal Hospital - 6200 Shallowford Rd.
 Lee Parkway Veterinary Clinic - 116 Lee Parkway Dr.
 Northgate Animal Hospital - 1600 Hamill Road
 Lookout Valley Pet Hospital - 320 Brons Ferry Rd.
 Ashland Terrace Animal Hospital - 907 Ashland Terrace
 Cherokee Animal Clinic - 525 Cherokee Blvd.
 Middle Valley Animal Hospital - 6310 Hixson Pike
 Animal Clinic East - 1414 Gunbarrel Road
 Chattanooga Veterinary Center - 6146 Lee Hwy

COMMONGROUND

March Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 • 10:00AM ■ Environmental Court	2	3
4	5 • 6:30PM ■ East Lake Neighborhood Association Meeting • 7:00PM ■ Community Association of Historic St. Elmo Meeting	6	7	8 • 10:00AM ■ Environmental Court • 6:00PM ■ Clifton Hills Neighborhood Improvement Committee Meeting • 7:00PM ■ Cedar Hill Improvement League Meeting	9	10
11	12 • 1:00PM ■ Regional Planning Agency Meeting	13 • 6:00PM ■ Sector 2 Community Policing Interactive Committee (CPIC) • 6:00PM ■ Lupton City Neighborhood Association Meeting	14 • 10:00AM ■ Board of Zoning Appeal Meeting • 11:00AM ■ East Lake Senior Citizens Meeting	15 • 10:00AM ■ Environmental Court • 5:30PM - 7:30PM ■ Second Annual Celebration of Missionary Ridge Heritage	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 • 10:00AM ■ Environmental Court • 5:30PM ■ South Broad Redevelopment Group, Inc. Meeting • 7:00PM ■ Ridgedale Neighborhood Association Meeting	23	24
25	26	27	28 • 10:00AM ■ Demolition Hearings	29 • 10:00AM ■ Environmental Court	30 ■ World Changers Home Repair Application Deadline	31

Visit our Calendar of Events at http://www.chattanooga.gov/Neighborhood_Services

Neighborhood TALK

Tuesday Mornings 9:00-9:30 a.m.
WN00 1260AM - Heritage Radio

Join Vanessa Jackson and Jill Murphy every Tuesday morning as we discuss topics that affect your neighborhood