

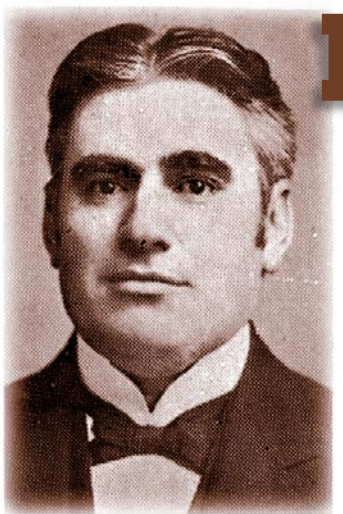


*A Newsletter from the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development*

## City Hall Grand Re-Opening Celebration

*Celebrating Chattanooga Neighborhoods*

# COMMON GROUND



## Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

*Chattanooga, Tennessee - 1908.* Mayor W.R. Crabtree invites one and all to the elaborate exercises for the laying of the new City Hall cornerstone. "We determine the civilization, the culture, and the worth of the people of past ages to a large extent by the permanence, the beauty, and the utility of their public improvements and public buildings," said Mayor Crabtree.

Just as it happened 100 years ago, Chattanooga's newly renovated City Hall will re-open its doors on Saturday, May 19th with great fanfare and festivities. Mark your calendars and get your old timey outfits ready for a circa 1908 parade, *continued on page 2*

*Mayor W.R. Crabtree*

*The Chattanooga Municipal Building circa 1910*



*Photos courtesy Hamilton County Bicentennial Library*

### Inside This Issue:

- City Hall Grand Re-Opening ...1
- Letter from the Administrator ..3
- Community Development.....4
- Glenwood Neighborhood Association.....5
- Neighborly News .....6, 7
- Calendar of Events.....8

### Neighborhood Services Contacts

- Beverly P. Johnson, Administrator..... 425-3700
- Anthony Sammons, Deputy Administrator.....425-3700
- Steve Hargis, Manager
- Codes & Neighborhood Relations .....425-3739
- Sandra Gober, Manager
- Economic & Community Development..... 757-5133
- Dottie Swasey, Editor, Common Ground..... 425-3736





City Hall Grand Re-Opening Celebration *(continued from page 1)*



*Market Street looking north from 9th Street, 1909. Note the dress of the day! Photo courtesy of Hamilton County Bicentennial Library.*

ribbon cutting ceremony, and city celebration surrounding this special event.

Beginning at 11:00 a.m., a circa 1908 parade will travel down Market Street, beginning at 4th Street and ending at City Hall on 11th Street. This parade will feature a reenactment of the same parade that celebrated City Hall's cornerstone laying in 1908. Witness horse drawn carriages, police and fire regiments, military regiments, the mayor and first lady, former mayors, city council members, marching bands and school children. The parade will also highlight News 12's Luther, antique cars and tractors, an authentic Coke wagon, a Dixie Land Band, a barber shop quartet,

Native Americans and cowboys with a few modern things thrown in - like Fire House 1's Ladder Truck, ambulances, bike patrol, police cars, large machinery, WGOW's Talk Monster and more. This unique parade is one you and your family won't soon forget, and you are encouraged to dress up in 1908 apparel.

At noon the ribbon will be cut at the newly refurbished City Hall. Gather as a town crier encourages all of Chattanooga to congregate at City Hall's front steps. A barber shop quartet will open the ceremony with the National Anthem and a children's choir will sing *My Country Tis of Thee*, just as it was sung 100 years ago as the first City Hall opened. You won't want to miss special appearances by former Chattanooga Mayor W.R. Crabtree, Mayor Frierson, the president of the Manufacturer's Association and Bessie Smith all from the year 1908. Mayor Ron Littlefield will cut the red ribbon and everyone attending will be encouraged to tour City Hall in its refurbished finery.

The remainder of the day the streets around City Hall will be closed for a free celebration in the style of circa 1908. This engaging festival brings in the flavor of that era



*Children dressed for the Spring Festival, 1904. An annual event in the early 1900s, the Spring Festival was celebrated with parades and street parties on Market Street*



*Looking West down 11th Street, 1908. On the right is the construction site for the Municipal Building.*

*Photos courtesy of Hamilton County Bicentennial Library*



## City Hall Grand Re-Opening Celebration

when Model A's had just been built, Coca-cola was 5 cents a bottle, and women wore big hats, frilly collars, and long dresses. While you are waiting to take a free guided tour of City Hall, visit the turn of the century petting zoo, the Creative Discovery Museum's children's activity area, the Towing and Recovery Museum's old tow truck, tractor and car show, The Chattanooga Regional History Museum's interactive "What is it?" exhibit, the Chattanooga Library's old book exhibit, and see for yourself the treasures recently unsealed in the 100 year old City Hall Time capsule. To capture the moment, free souvenir photos will be taken in front of City Hall. There will be turn of the century music, food, and more fun than you can imagine. Saturday, May 19th is your chance to experience the flavor of 1908 during City



Mayor Ron Littlefield

Hall's Grand Re-opening celebration and you won't want to miss it! Come for the parade at 11 a.m, the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Noon, and the celebration at 12:30 p.m.

*Chattanooga, Tennessee - 2007.*

Mayor Ron Littlefield invites one and all to the elaborate exercises to celebrate the re-opening of City Hall.

"It has been my honor and privilege to witness the rebirth of this beautiful historic building. I would like to invite everyone to help us celebrate the Grand Re-Opening of City Hall as a gift to the City of Chattanooga."



*The Chattanooga Municipal Building, or City Hall, as it stands today.*

## A Letter from the Administrator

The Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development is looking forward to the re-opening of City Hall, not only because of the festivities surrounding the event, but because our department will be moving into the newly refurbished building. Our offices will be on the second floor of City Hall, and we will finally be united with Community Development, which has until now resided in a separate building from the rest of the department.

Speaking of Community Development, their Three Year Action Plan was finalized March 27th. This plan lists all funding projects which were approved. You will find the list published in this issue of Common Ground.

WorldChangers deadline for free home repair applications was March 31st. We have received many applications this year, and now begins the process of reviewing those submissions. If you submitted an application, look for communications from our department in the coming weeks to let you know if we need further information and what the next steps will be.

One of the biggest challenges for many of our neighborhood associations is in the recruiting of new members. Glenwood Neighborhood Association is to be commended for doing a great job in getting the word out to accomplish this task. Read their story on page 5 to learn the secrets to their success.

Finally, I wish to express my appreciation for all acts of kindness shown to me as my family mourned the unexpected death of my sister, Carolyn. Needless to say her passing was a shock to us all and we are trying to cope with this huge loss. Your expressions of sympathy have made each day easier to get through. Thanks to each of you for your continued prayers and support.



*Beverly P. Johnson, Administrator*



# Community Development's Annual Action Plan

## FY 2007-2008 Action Plan

The Action Plan outlines HUD funded CDBG, HOME Investment Act and ESG programs and projects that will be funded this fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2007. The following list, with detailed information regarding each item, can be found on our website at <http://www.chattanooga.gov>.

The City of Chattanooga, as a HUD Entitlement community, has available the following funds: CDBG-\$1,973,606; HOME-\$1,106,150; ADDI-\$21,507; ESG-\$84,678; and Program Income-\$1,250,000, for a total of \$4,435,941.

The following projects were approved for funding by the City Council on March 27, 2007, beginning July 1, 2007 thru June 30, 2008:

28th District CDC .....	\$400,000	Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development - Community Development Office Operations .....	\$507,600
Chattanooga Community Kitchen.....	\$250,000	Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development.....	\$4,233
Chattanooga Community Kitchen.....	\$15,000	Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development.....	\$21,507
Chattanooga Endeavors, Inc. ....	\$30,000	Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development – Code Enforcement.....	\$100,000
Chattanooga Homeless Coalition.....	\$25,000	Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development - Rental Rehabilitation Program.....	\$50,000
Chattanooga Homeless Coalition.....	\$34,000	Department of Public Works.....	\$200,000
Chattanooga Housing Authority (CHA) .....	\$150,000	Front Porch Alliance .....	\$30,000
Chattanooga Housing Development Corporation (CHDO).....	\$400,000	Interfaith Homeless Network.....	\$5,763.36
Chattanooga Housing Resource Board (CHRB)....	\$59,000	Partnership for Families, Children & Adults ....	\$31,197.36
Chattanooga Neighborhood Enterprise (CNE) ....	\$706,150	Partnership for Families, Children & Adults .....	\$15,000
Chattanooga Neighborhood Enterprise (CNE) ....	\$786,006	<b>Grand Total.....</b>	<b>\$4,435,940.08</b>
Chattanooga Room In The Inn.....	\$2,000		
Chattanooga Room In the Inn.....	\$13,483.36		
Debt Service-Loan Repayment.....	\$600,000		

The projects noted herein were approved by the City Council in an open public meeting on March 27, 2007. Citizens wishing to comment regarding these projects and contents of the Action Plan may do so in writing to: Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development, City Hall Annex, Room 201, 100 E. 11th Street, Chattanooga, TN 37402. **Written comments must be received by May 4, 2007.**

To secure a copy of the Action Plan or the Executive Summary, citizens should contact the office at 757-5133, Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.. A nominal fee will be charged for the cost of duplication. The Action Plan and the Executive Summary will also be available on our website at <http://www.chattanooga.gov>.

# Neighborhood TALK

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

# Glenwood Neighborhood Association

## An Outstanding Membership Drive

by Marva Nelson, President

The Glenwood Neighborhood Association kicked off the 2007 Membership Drive at our meeting on February 22nd with a celebration of food, fun and fellowship among the residents. Great prizes such as cash (gift cards) and several other gifts went to those lucky enough to have the magic number on their ticket. The grand prize was two tickets to the Tennessee Aquarium.

On Saturday, February 24th and March 17th, volunteers walked door to door to encourage residents to become involved with the GNA and their community. New members were signed up on the spot. As an added bonus to becoming a paid member, they received a Glenwood Neighborhood Directory (a project funded through the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development's Neighborhood Partners Project) and a T-Shirt proudly displaying the Glenwood logo and motto.

Two days prior to our March 22nd meeting, signs announcing our meeting time and place, as well as "Join Today!" were strategically placed around the Glenwood boundaries. The signs were made possible through our partnership with Community Impact of Chattanooga. All

new members recruited at the meeting also received a directory and T-shirt.

At the end of our membership kickoff a total of 28 residents and stakeholders either joined for the first time or renewed their annual membership. At the end of 2006 we had a total of 37 memberships. As of this article we total 49 members including corporate partners, institutions and churches, and we expect the memberships to increase even more during April and May. A very successful membership drive, indeed!

The GNA wants to thank all who support the efforts to bring about positive changes in Glenwood. With the help of our partnerships with the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development and Community Impact of Chattanooga, good things are happening to Glenwood, "A Community Jewel".



*Signs were put out in the community to announce the meeting and encourage new members to come join the association*



*Jackie Thomas signs up new members at the Glenwood Neighborhood Association meeting*



*Volunteers went door to door in the neighborhood to sign up new recruits*

### Do You Have A Story?

Let us know if you have news, dates or stories of interest to the community

.....

Editorial deadline is the 20th of each month

.....

Contact Dottie Swasey  
(423) 425-3736  
or e-mail your information to

**COMMON GROUND**

*Include pictures if you have them!*



## Department of Education, Arts and Culture

### EAC Believes “You’re Never Too Old”

Typically Americans view senior citizens as 65 or older, retired and physical activity is at a minimum. This couldn’t be further from the truth for the “seniors” who regularly participate in the programs at the Eastgate Senior Activity Center. Director Clarence Williams boasts a number of successful programs, targeted to seniors, ranging from aerobics to bridge. Quality educational, social and recreational programming is offered to all area seniors. Due to the popularity of the variety of programs offered and ever increasing attendance, the center recently moved into a larger facility and is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Highlights of this active center are the holiday dances. This past Valentine’s Day over 100 people enjoyed an afternoon of romance, fellowship and entertainment. Miss Hamilton County Ansley Reagan serenaded the audience playing love songs on her harp. Director Williams personally serenaded dancing couples with his own rendition of popular love songs. Upcoming dances include the After Easter Luncheon and Dance on April 9th from 12:00-3:00 p.m. and the Pre-Memorial Day Dance and Picnic on May 25th from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Information on dances and all other programming at the Eastgate Senior Activity Center can be obtained by calling (423) 855-9444 or 855-9443.



*Cutting a rug at the Eastgate Seniors Activity Center Valentine’s Dance*

### Connecting The Dots ● ● ● ● ●

Education, Arts and Culture teams up with United Way of Greater Chattanooga to present “Connecting The Dots”, a summit exploring arts and social issues. The event takes place Thursday, April 5th from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Memorial Auditorium’s Community Theatre. Registration begins at 7:45a.m.

The keynote speaker will be Claudia Cornett, Ph.D., a renowned literacy expert. Refreshments will be provided morning and noon. Breakout sessions include Arts & Literacy, Arts & Social Services, Arts & Healing and Arts and Economic Development.

The public is invited to attend. Tickets are \$20 at the door. For more information, e-mail [Laurie Shipley](mailto:Laurie.Shipley@unitedway.org) or call her at 425-7823.

## Office of Multicultural Affairs

### Second Annual Fair Housing Luncheon

On Thursday, April 19th at 12 p.m., the Office of Multicultural Affairs will host the Second Annual Fair Housing Luncheon at the Imperial Ballroom of the Chattanooga Choo Choo. The featured speaker for this event is James Sutton, Director of the Region IV HUD Office of Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity.

This exciting event is offered specifically to housing industry leaders. Realtors, Mortgage Bankers, Apartment Realtors, Non-Profit Organizations, Fair Housing Advocates and others are encouraged to attend to learn more about fair housing enforcement trends in our region and how to support local, state and federal fair housing laws.

This free event is offered in Partnership with the Chattanooga Association of Realtors, Chattanooga Apartment Association and the Mortgage Bankers Association.

Advance registration is required — please register by April 15th. To request an accommodation, or for more information about the event, please e-mail [Amanda Stofan](mailto:Amanda.Stofan@multiculturalaffairs.org) or call her at 423-643-6708.

## Parks and Recreation Department

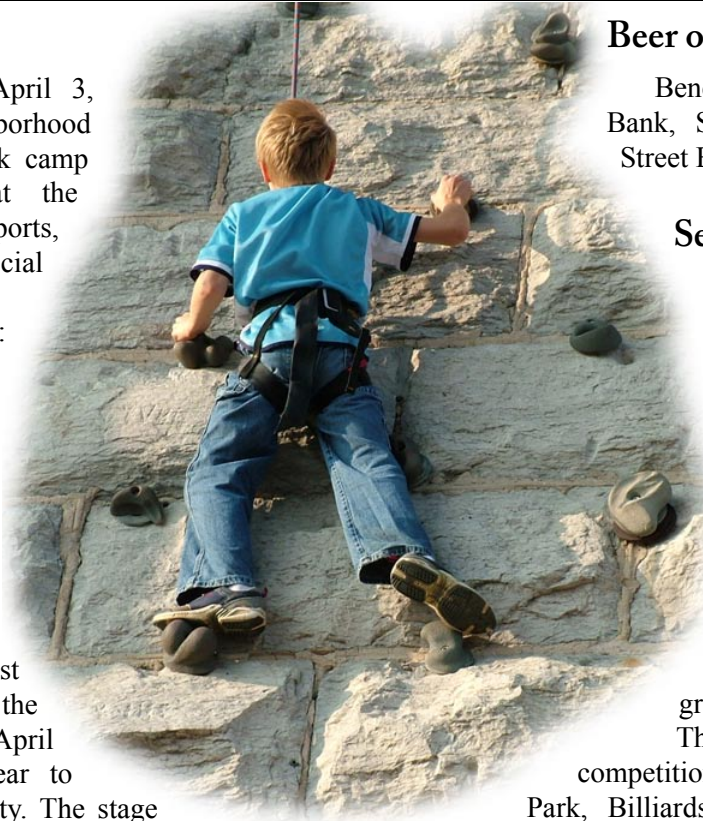
### Summer Day Camp

Sign-up starts Tuesday, April 3, 2007 12:30 at all city neighborhood recreation centers. The 8 week camp program offers activities at the recreation centers, swimming, sports, arts & crafts, field trips & special events.

There will be 2 sessions: June 4 – June 29 and July 9 – August 3. Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m and the cost is \$100.00 per session. Call 311 to find the recreation center closest to you.

### Tour De Georgia

Chattanooga will host this year's Stage 3 finish of the competition on Wednesday, April 18th. This is our second year to welcome the cyclists to our city. The stage begins in Rome, GA at noon. Riders will ride a challenging 118 miles and are expected to arrive at Ross's Landing between 4:15 and 5:00 p.m. The Chattanooga finish line festival will feature a jumbo television screen with live coverage of the entire race, a Live Healthy Expo, food, and fun — FREE!



### Beer on the Bridge

Benefiting the Chattanooga Food Bank, Saturday, April 21st, Walnut Street Bridge.

### Senior Olympic Games

District event runs May 9 – 12. Registration forms are available at Alexian Senior Neighbors and at the Parks and Recreation Office. Pre-registration is required and the deadline is April 15th!

The Parks and Recreation Department works with Alexian Brothers - Senior Neighbors, the State Senior Olympics, and other groups to facilitate this event.

This year there are three new competitions: Weightlifting at Warner Park, Billiards at Eastgate Senior Center and Ballroom Dance at Alexian Brothers Senior Neighbors Newby Clubhouse. The Ballroom Dance will be a pre-event on Monday evening, May 7th. Opening Ceremonies will be held on Wednesday, May 9th at 1:00 p.m. at UTC McClellan Gym. Call 755-6100 or 643-6055 for registration forms or for more information.

## FREE Tax Preparation Still Available

### What are you waiting for?

Many people find preparing their annual tax return themselves a challenging and rewarding annual process. For others, the prospect of doing this without outside help is daunting.

That's where the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, sponsored by the City of Chattanooga and the Urban League of Greater Chattanooga, steps in. This program provides federal income tax return filing assistance and preparation services for Chattanoogaans who qualify for Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

Filers who make less than \$40,000 a year can visit one of ten (10) sites throughout the Greater Chattanooga area to have their taxes prepared and electronically filed COMPLETELY FREE OF CHARGE. The program is operated by IRS trained and certified volunteers.

These tax preparation sites will be open for operations until April 15th, but don't wait, file your taxes for FREE now. Call either 311 or 211 for more information about scheduling an appointment to file your taxes today!





# COMMONGROUND

## April Calendar of Events

Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development Calendar  
April 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 • 6:30PM ■ <a href="#">East Lake Neighborhood Association Meeting</a> • 7:00PM ■ <a href="#">Community Association of Historic St. Elmo Meeting</a>	3	4	5 • 10:00AM ■ <a href="#">Environmental Court</a> • 5:30PM ■ <a href="#">District 1 Meeting</a>	6	7
8	9 • 1:00PM ■ <a href="#">Regional Planning Agency Meeting</a>	10 • 8:00PM ■ <a href="#">Sector 2 Community Policing Interactive Committee (CPIC)</a> • 8:00PM ■ <a href="#">Lupton City Neighborhood Association Meeting</a>	11 • 10:00AM ■ <a href="#">Board of Zoning Appeal Meeting</a> • 11:00AM ■ <a href="#">East Lake Senior Citizens Meeting</a>	12 • 10:00AM ■ <a href="#">Environmental Court</a> • 6:00PM ■ <a href="#">Clifton Hills Neighborhood Improvement Committee Meeting</a> • 7:00PM ■ <a href="#">Cedar Hill Improvement League Meeting</a>	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 • 10:00AM ■ <a href="#">Environmental Court</a>	20	21
22	23 • 5:30PM - 8:00PM ■ <a href="#">Neighborhood Leadership Institute Orientation</a>	24 • 7:00PM ■ <a href="#">Mayor Littlefield's State of the City Address</a>	25 • 10:00AM ■ <a href="#">Demolition Hearings</a>	26 • 10:00AM ■ <a href="#">Environmental Court</a> • 5:30PM ■ <a href="#">South Broad Redevelopment Group, Inc. Meeting</a> • 7:00PM ■ <a href="#">Ridgedale Neighborhood Association Meeting</a>	27	28
29	30 • 5:30PM - 8:00PM ■ <a href="#">Neighborhood Leadership Institute: Session 1</a> • 8:00PM ■ <a href="#">Night Court</a>					

Visit our Calendar of Events at [http://www.chattanooga.gov/Neighborhood\\_Services](http://www.chattanooga.gov/Neighborhood_Services)

### Important Dates

#### District 1 Meeting Lookout Valley Only

Mayor Littlefield and Councilwoman Bennett  
Location: John A Patton Recreation Center  
April 5th at 5:30 p.m.

#### Mayor Littlefield's State of the City Address

Bessie Smith Hall  
April 24th at 7:00 p.m.

### Save the Date

#### The 9th Annual Neighborhoods and Codes Conference

hosted by the  
Department of Neighborhood Services  
and Community Development  
October 17-19, 2007  
Chattanooga Convention Center