

COMMON GROUND

A Newsletter Celebrating Neighborhoods

Second Annual Go! Fest: Continuing to Celebrate People of All Abilities

Mayor Ron Littlefield

Neighborhood Services Contact

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It's time for the second annual Go! Fest – a day where we celebrate everyone's abilities. This year's free event is in a new location, is packed with more activities and promises to be even better than last year.

Go! Fest is graciously sponsored by

UnumProvident and the City of Chattanooga and is scheduled for Saturday, October 14, 2006 from Noon until 6pm at the First Tennessee Pavilion.

Here's a quick run-down of what is new this year.

Entertainment includes Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Shows, Music from Overland Express, Tennessee Rounders, Stephen Owen, The Orange Grove Singers, street performers and more.

There will be plenty of chairs and tables in front of the stage for you to sit, relax, and

enjoy music and have a bite to eat. There are many affordable food and beverage concessions this year.

Wheelchair soccer is our featured activity and will accompany last year's very popular wheelchair basketball, petting zoo, and pony rides.

Remember the job fair? It was very well received and is back with more opportunities for people with disabilities. We are also looking forward to a bigger and better Arts and Crafts Fair. Many of our artists are dis-

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Letter from the Administrator

Dear Neighbor,

I would like to thank the City officials, employees, community representatives and conference attendees for making our 8th Annual Neighborhoods and Codes Conference a success. I would also like to offer a special thanks to our speakers and invited guests for sharing their wisdom and experiences with attendees.

This month, I am very excited to announce funding availability for the 2006-07 Neighborhood Partners Program. I hope that all interested neighborhood groups will participate in this program, as we strive towards strengthening the Chattanooga community.

Please feel free to call our office at any time with questions or concerns. We appreciate your interest and involvement.

Sincerely,
Beverly P. Johnson, Administrator



Mayor Littlefield (continued)

October 2006

abled and ready to sell their beautiful artwork.

One of my personal favorites of Go! Fest was the exhibitors. This year they will showcase services and products for people of

all abilities. If you haven't had a chance to ride the recumbent bicycles then you should this year.

Last year's event was such

enjoy a beautiful fall afternoon with friends. For more information about Go! Fest, log onto WWW.Gofest.info or call 756-2211. I'll see you there!



Waterskiing exhibition from 2005 Go! Fest



success that we had to do it again. We received a lot of valuable feedback from you about how to do the festival better and we listened. Please plan on bringing your family again this year and



Equestrian exhibition from 2005 Go! Fest

CDBG Funding in Action James A. Henry YMCA Playground



Before: James A. Henry YMCA playground

The installation of this playground, located at the James A. Henry YMCA in the Brainerd community was completed in early September 2006.

The original playground was in serious need of repair to meet safety and accessibility standards (see before photos). The project included a new fence, a large playground piece and climber, as well as playground safety surfacing. The official grand opening of the playground will occur the second week of October 2006.

This playground will be used by children attending the Henry YMCA preschool program, most of whom are from low to moderate income families.

This project was made possible by a \$25,000 Community Development Block Grant through the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development.



After: James A. Henry YMCA playground



Before: James A. Henry YMCA playground



After: James A. Henry YMCA playground

Neighborhood Notes

News from Chattanooga's neighborhood groups

October 2006



To be a unified community voice promoting a better quality of life for all Chattanooga neighborhoods

The **Chattanooga Neighborhood Association Council (CNAC)** is taking on an aggressive project which will help many handicapped senior citizens and financially challenged people who are on a low fixed income receive a handicap ramp built for their homes. CNAC will acquire the funding for this humanitarian undertaking from the **Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga**. There are many people who have difficulty getting in and out of their homes, so CNAC decided to get involved by stepping in and giving a big community hand to our neighbors. CNAC wants to be a friend to the community. One way to do this is to help the community through the resources that it has because of its organizational strength.

CNAC extends an invitation to all community leaders to join us in our efforts to move forward in community development and accessing opportunities available to established neighborhoods. There are many community issues that our neighborhood and community organizations can

resolve by combining efforts towards improving the Chattanooga community. CNAC invites representatives of all neighborhood and community organizations to join and attend monthly meetings.

Charles Payne, President of CNAC says, "There is a myth in the market place that you can stand alone and be just as effective as an organized effort put on by a faction of people with the same goal in mind. A fallacy exists in that notion... CNAC is not a cure all but we work with all agencies and we have gained a measurable amount of creditability."

CNAC meets every fourth Monday at 6: 00 p. m. at the Community Foundation at 1270 Market Street. For more information regarding community and district participation, please contact **Charles Payne, President of CNAC at 899-1748.**

The **Forest Highlands Neighborhood Association** has worked diligently towards getting



Pictured (Above): Officer Dugan addresses the Forrest Highlands Neighborhood Association

organized since earlier this year during spring. The Association has made great strides toward that goal by: creating a neighborhood

directory, drafting bylaws, as well as facilitating a process for greater neighborhood communication with the aim of assisting neighbors.

On Monday, September 18, 2006, the Association met with Chattanooga City Police Officer



Pictured (Above):The Forrest Highlands Neighborhood Association

Jennifer Duggan of the Crime Prevention/Civil Enforcement Unit to gain a greater understanding of the necessary steps to form a neighborhood watch in the Forrest Highlands community.

This group, comprised of new and long-time residents, is very involved in maintaining the legacy of the neighborhood. They have several upcoming projects focusing on making their community the best it can be.

If you have an upcoming event that you would like to see highlighted in the monthly Common Ground Newsletter, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development at (423) 425-3700.



**Dana Jones Womble
Senior Administrative
Secretary
Department of
Neighborhood Services
and
Community Development**

Dana Jones Womble is the Senior Administrative Secretary for the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development.

Dana attended Spelman College in Atlanta, GA, and earned an Associate of Science degree from Chattanooga State Technical Community College in General Studies. She is also completing the final 10 hours of a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration / Management from Bryan College. She intends, upon completion of her BA degree, to further her education by attending Bryan College's Master of Business Administration program.

Dana is a member of numerous professional societies and is a notary public for the State of Tennessee. She is married to Brian R. Womble, and they are the proud parents of two children: son, Willie and daughter, Brianna. In her spare time, Dana enjoys reading, playing piano, cooking, sewing, and spending time with her family. She attends Greater Tucker Missionary Baptist Church.

Dana states that the most rewarding part of her job is serving the public in a positive way and making a difference in the lives of the citizens that contact her.

**Amanda Stofan
Compliance Officer
Office of Multicultural
Affairs**

Amanda Stofan is the Compliance Officer for the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA). Growing up with parents in the military, she has lived all over the country, most recently in Portland, OR. Prior to her employment with OMA, Amanda worked for Hamilton County in child support enforcement.

Amanda earned Bachelor's Degrees in Political Science and Criminal Justice from the University of Georgia at Athens. She earned her Juris Doctorate at Lewis and Clark College in May 2005.

Amanda and her husband Matt moved to Chattanooga in August 2005. She recalls driving cross country through the outer ring of Hurricane Katrina, traveling through areas of Missouri, Arkansas and western Tennessee and seeing roadway signs and debris scattered along the highways. They did not take the storm around them as a sign that they should not move to Chattanooga though, as she insists that, "Chattanooga is a very beautiful city, it has so many hidden gems... Chattanooga is one of the southeast's best kept secrets." She and Matt have a dog named Lola and recently purchased a house in Clifton Hills, originally built in 1927, that has "character." In her spare time, she and her husband spend time "fixing up their fixer-upper."

"There are a lot of people in a lot of different areas working to make Chattanooga a better place to live, work and visit. The OMA is a part of that movement, and I am very fortunate to be in a position to help foster positive change in our communities."



Urban League Requesting Works for Art Competition and Gala Fundraiser

The Urban League of Greater Chattanooga is calling for artists to submit original works for an art competition and sale. It is the Urban League's intent to provide a medium of display for multicultural artists who represent Chattanooga's diversity.

All entries must be two-dimensional and must not exceed 36X48 inches. Artist must be at least 18 years of age. Submissions must be received no later than Nov. 20 and will be on display Dec. 14, at the Urban League's annual Equal Opportunity Day dinner.

A first and second prize winner will be selected by a panel of judges comprised of local gallery owners and art enthusiasts.

To submit artwork, contact [James McKissic](#) at the Urban League at (423) 756-1762.



- What:** Go!Fest—a festival celebrating how people of all abilities can work, live and play together
- When:** Saturday, October 14, 2006 Noon - 6pm
- Where:** First Tennessee Pavillion - Chattanooga, TN
- Admission:** Free admission - open to the public.
- Entertainment:** Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Shows (3 performances), Music from Overland Express, Tennessee Rounders, Stephen Owen, The Orange Grove Singers, street performers and more.
- Activities:** Arts and Crafts Booths, Job Fair, Children's Activities include pony rides and a petting zoo.
Athletic events: Wheelchair basketball & soccer.
- Exhibitors:** Over 50 exhibitors will showcase services and products for people of all abilities, in addition to a variety of food & beverage concessions.
- Information:** For more information, call (423) 756-2211
Sponsorship info: Sallie Beckes Sallie@riverbendfestival.com
Exhibitor info: Karen Shostak Karen@riverbendfestival.com
- Transportation:** CARTA Care - A - Van transportation is available to Go!Fest.
For reservations, call **(423) 698-9083** 24 hours or more in advance.

Go!Fest is presented by UnumProvident and sponsored by BI-LO, HealthSouth, Coca Cola, The Chattanooga Times Free Press, US-101 and Fairway Outdoor.

Go!Fest is produced by Friends of the Festival, Inc. in partnership with the Mayor's Office and the City of Chattanooga.

5—Environmental Court (also to be held on the 12th, 19th, and 26th)

Location: Courts Building, Division II, 2nd Floor

600 Market Street

Time: 10:00 AM

9—Regional Planning Agency Meeting

Location: Hamilton County Courthouse

625 Georgia Avenue

Time: 1:00 PM

10—Sector 2 Community Policing Interactive Committee (CPIC) - (Echo and Fox zones)

Location: Parkridge Diagnostic Center

2205 McCallie Avenue

Time: 6:00 PM

10—Neighborhood Partners Program Technical Assistance Workshop

Location: Conference Room 1A, Development Resource Center

1250 Market Street

Time: 6:00 PM

11—Board of Zoning Appeal Meeting

Location: City Council Building

1000 Lindsay Street

Time: 10:00 AM

12—Neighborhood Partners Program Technical Assistance Workshop

Location: Conference Room 1A, Development Resource Center

1250 Market Street

Time: 10:00 AM

19—Mayor Littlefield's District One and Two Community Meetings (except Lookout Valley which will be held at a later date)

Location: Northside Presbyterian Church

923 Mississippi Ave

Time: 5:30PM

23—Chattanooga Neighborhood Association Council Meeting

Location: Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga

1270 Market Street

Time: 6:00 PM

25— Demolition Hearings

Location: Development Resource Center, Conference Room 1A

1250 Market Street

Time: 10:00 AM



TUNE IN!!!

Tuesday Mornings, 9:00-9:30am
WNOO, 1260AM — Heritage Radio



**For Immediate Release
September 27, 2006**

**Department of Neighborhood Services and Community
Development Announces the
2006-07 Neighborhood Partners Projects (NPP)
Funding Cycle**

Beverly P. Johnson, Administrator of the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development announces the availability of funding for the **2006-07 Neighborhood Partners Projects (NPP)**. In keeping with Mayor Ron Littlefield's commitment to "nourish neighborhoods" a maximum of \$7,000 will be awarded for projects, programs and activities aimed towards neighborhood development, safety and beautification efforts within Chattanooga's neighborhoods. Proposed projects must demonstrate civic participation and create community-based solutions that will substantially improve Chattanooga neighborhoods.

Eligible projects include, but are not limited to: pilot or start-up public school partnership projects that directly benefit a public school and its immediate neighborhood; planting of trees, flowers, shrubbery for beautification; English as a Second Language (ESOL) Classes; and projects that promote issues of neighborhood safety. Eligible applicants are neighborhood associations or civic organizations located within the Chattanooga City limits for at least six (6) months prior to the application date. Ineligible applicants are governmental agencies, educational institutions, religious institutions, private and for-profit businesses and individuals and private property owners.

Neighborhood Partners Projects (NPP) create opportunities for organizations to make their neighborhoods stronger, safer, and healthier and improve their neighborhood environments as well as develop and nurture relationships among neighbors.

To apply for **Neighborhood Partners Projects (NPP)** funding, please contact Darius Swoope, Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development at (423) 425-3718.



CHATTANOOGA NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES DEPARTMENT



Visit the City of Chattanooga on the web at:
<http://www.chattanooga.gov/>