

COMMON GROUND

A Newsletter Celebrating Neighborhoods

OPPORTUNITY to REVITALIZE

City housing with CDBG funding...

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The Office of Community Development became part of the Department of Neighborhood Services in July of this year. The primary responsibility of the office is to manage the annual HUD entitlement grants, particularly the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

The City coordinates its community development activities with many other public/private agencies. These organizations use a combination of both public and private dollars to produce and renovate affordable housing and market-rate housing

opportunities in many of Chattanooga's socio-economically diverse neighborhoods. They also provide assistance to the homeless, as well as infrastructure improvements, recreational, educational, and economic needs.

The review process is comprehensive, and includes the Mayor, City Council, and citizen input. With the assistance of the members of the Community Development Advisory Committee, all proposals and requests for use of federal dollars are processed on a competitive basis.

"Be accurate in terms of what you are asking the funding to be

used for," says Juliette Thornton, manager of planning and program development." She goes on to say to " Be sure that the program/ services addresses a need and impacts low or moderate income individuals. There is only a limited amount of funding and even two million dollars is not enough when you are trying to meet the needs of low to moderate income citizens."

Annual announcements, workshops and technical assistance seminars allow prospective sub-recipients to submit proposals for grant funding. The Advisory Committee reviews all proposals, *(continued pg. 3)*

Letter from the Administrator

Dear Neighbor,

This fall the Neighborhood Services Department (NSD) has a new home at Warehouse Row in downtown Chattanooga. During the excitement of our move, and now that we are situated, we continue to strive for excellence.

Through proper training, like our 7th Annual Codes Conference, and resource opportunities like the availability of Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for the community, we can work together to revitalize our city.

At the NSD, we are in the problem-solving business. We find answers and let you know when, where and how your particular challenge will be resolved. Please call our office at any time. We appreciate your interest and involvement.

Sincerely,
Beverly P. Johnson, Administrator



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INSPECTOR TRAINING: 7th Annual Conference on Codes Enforcement

The Neighborhood Services Department Code Enforcement division is proud to host the 7th Annual Conference on Codes Enforcement in Chattanooga TN.

On October 6-7, code enforcement experts and inspectors from all over the south-east will converge at

the Chattanooga Choo-Choo hotel to participate in the south's



premier codes conference training event. Steve Hargis, deputy

administrator of the Neighborhood Services Department confirms. *"The State of Tennessee offers credit hours to inspectors who successfully complete the training. We've been doing this for seven years, and each year we hear about how effective and practical our workshop line-up is."*

This year's conference is split into two tracks, "Professional" and "Technical." In the professional track, special guest speaker Anne Bruce, an internationally acclaimed motivational speaker, is showcased. She is recognized all over the world as an inspirational force in human development.

The technical track showcases several codes experts from around the nation providing practical information for inspectors.

For More information on the 7th Annual Codes Conference, please call 425-3700, or visit us online at www.chattanooga.gov

Neighborhood Services Fall program updates!

Get involved in these great programs and events...!



Have you ever thought about celebrating your disability? Whether it is physical, mental, cognitive, or emotional, your disability is worth celebrating!

In fact, there's a new festival called GolFest that celebrates everyone's abilities.

Bring your family to Ross's landing on Saturday, October 1st and see how to live, work and play with a disability in Chattanooga. There will be an employment village, adaptive water sports, a paralympic water skier, paralympic tennis player, adaptive horse back riding and rock climbing, an inclusive playground, senior games, crafts, music, food, and fun. See the Impressions sing live on the main stage. For more information, log onto www.gofest.info, or Contact Cathy Justice at the Mayor's office at 425-7800. Admission is free. We'll see you there!

WORLD CHANGERS

World Changers is a ministry designed to provide Christian Youth and Adults with opportunities to meet the physical needs of others through practical learning experiences. Since 1990, the program has provided free home repair and community services to cities throughout the country. This year marked the third year that World Changers provided work for Chattanooga residents.

Between July 16th and 30th, approximately 40 Chattanooga

homeowners received the labor of love and servant hood from World Changers through free home repair. Approximately 650 youth and adult volunteers sacrificed by giving their time and energy to provide free labor to qualifying senior citizens and homeowners in the Alton Park, Clifton Hills, Oak Grove, and neighborhoods served by the Thankful CDC. In addition, the World Changers provided volunteer labor to several local non-profits such as the Community Kitchen, Volunteer Childcare Center and many others.

(continued pg.4)

CDBG (continued from pg.1)

Federal dollars used locally...

conduct project reviews, and make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council for expenditure of funds.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Application Allocation Workshop | November 3 |
| Technical Assistance Session | December 3 |
| Applications Due | December 16 |
| Farther Out: January - July | |
| Allocation Team Reviews | (January & February) |
| Mayor and City Council Resolution | (March-April) |
| Public Notice published of availability of Action Plan | (April) |
| Public Comment Period for 30 days | |
| Action Plan to HUD | May 15 |
| Program Year begins | July 1 |

Neighborhood Services Department

Has new home...

The Neighborhood Services department has moved from the Lindsay Street building to Warehouse Row. Our main line has not changed.

Please make a note of our new address listed below:

City of Chattanooga
Neighborhood Services Department
1110 Market Street, Suite 333B
Chattanooga, TN 37402

Please feel free to call our offices with your concerns!
423-425-3700

Neighborhood Talk

Mornings, 9:00-9:30am
WN00, 1260AM -Heritage Radio

Tuesday

TUNE IN!!!

Upcoming Events

September:

- 6 Labor Day (City Offices Closed)
- 13 CPIC Sector 2 Meeting Carver Center 6:00 p.m.
- 26 CNAC Monthly Meeting Community Foundation 6:00 p.m.
- 27 Glenwood/Orchard Knob Neighborhood Court Glenwood Recreation Center 6:00 p.m.

October:

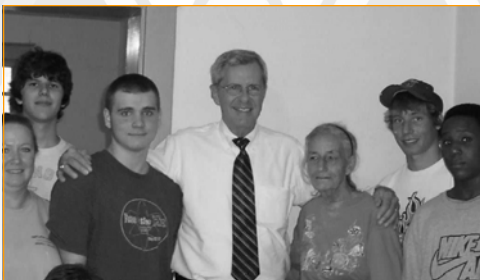
- 1 Lookout Valley Neighborhood Association Golf Tournament Moccasin Bend Golf Course 9:00 a.m.
- 6-7 Neighborhood Services Department 7th Annual Codes Conference at the Chattanooga Choo-Choo
- 11 CPIC/Sector 2 Meeting East Lake Senior Center 6:00 p.m.
- 9-15 Fire Prevention Week
- 24 CNAC Monthly Meeting Community Foundation 6:00 p.m.
- 25 Avondale/ East Chattanooga/Glass Farm Neighborhood Court @ Avondale Rec Center 6:00p.m.

WORLD CHANGERS: *Wrap-up...* (continued from pg.2)

This effort would not have been possible without our valuable partners: The Front Porch Alliance, Brainerd Baptist Church, Hamilton County Baptist Association and member churches, the Neighborhood Associations and the Community Impact of Chattanooga and the Bushtown Neighborhood Association.

As a result of contributions from the City of Chattanooga's Neighborhood Grant

Program and these generous donors, over



Mayor Littlefield visits World Changers

\$65,000.00 was raised to support the project leveraging over \$300,000.00 of impact to the neighborhoods of our City.

We are indebted to World Changers for

the positive contribution that has been made toward the housing stock and citizen's lives in our city.

The City of Chattanooga looks forward to next year's World Changer project! Call Neighborhood Services at 425-3741 for more information.

Human Rights Human Relations Commission

Elects New Chairman

The Human Rights Human Relations Commission elected a new Chairman on Monday, August 8th.

Alan Richelson was named the new chairman. He applauded out-going Chairman Hal Baker for a very successful 6 year tenure on the commission.

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1110 Market Street, Suite 333B
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Contact Info:

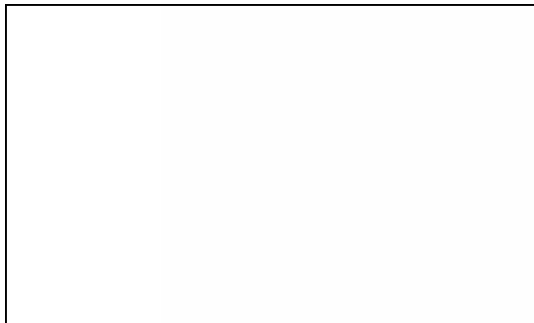
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