

# COMMON GROUND

A Newsletter Celebrating Neighborhoods

## ANIMAL SERVICES DIVISION LAUNCHES "S.E.L." PROGRAM IN 2005...



### SETS GOAL FOR ANIMAL OVERPOPULATION IN CHATTANOOGA

#### Neighborhood Services

#### Contact Info:

- Bob Corker  
Mayor  
757-5152
- Kenardo K. Curry  
Administrator  
425-3730
- Steve Hargis  
Deputy Administrator  
425-3739
- Tony Smith  
Lead Inspector  
425-3743
- Vanessa Jackson  
Program Manager  
425-3741
- Mark Kleiner  
Special Projects  
425-3744



In July, 2004, the Neighborhood Services Department welcomed its newest division, Animal Services, into its ranks. Since that time, the NSD has taken several measures to develop a proactive, comprehensive strategic plan which addresses animal overpopulation.

Our community faces a significant animal overpopulation problem year after year. Our animal overpopulation re-

duction strategy has three parts:

- \* a **spay-neuter campaign** that provides low cost surgeries to low-income recipients;
- \* a **public education program** that demonstrates responsible animal ownership, and third,
- \* a **legislative program** that develops laws that protect animals, as well as enforces existing ordinances that require kennels, breeders, and dealers to obtain permits to operate.

The grace period is in effect until February 1, at which time the program's legislation will be enforced. Permit appli-



Animal Control Officers work with a wide variety of animals every day.

cations cost \$40 and are available at the animal services division, 643-5242. You can also download the permit from the web at [www.chattanooga.gov/nightserv/](http://www.chattanooga.gov/nightserv/).

Also available from animal services is the spay-neuter voucher for low-income applicants. This voucher allows low-income... (cont. pg 4)

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## Letter from the Administrator

Dear Neighbor,

One of the most time-honored traditions for this time of year is to create a list of New-Year resolutions. Not only does this encourage the prospect of a great new year, but also helps create a sense of determination that leads to success.

At the Neighborhood Services Department, we've geared up for the new year with brand new programs that are designed to promote progress in our community through targeted efforts.

Three new programs are launching the NSD into 2005. Several target issues affecting our community are animal care, neighborhood security, and community empowerment. We are looking ahead to the future to make 2005 our best year ever.

Sincerely,  Administrator



## COURTWATCH PARTNERS coordinate, fight crime in 2005

It is a year of new beginnings. The Neighborhood Services Department is aiding a grassroots group as they renew their mission for 2005. The CourtWatch Partners were formed in 2001 by a core of dedicated yet frustrated citizens from the Ridge-dale, Oak Grove, East Lake, Ferger Place and Highland Park communities.

The Court-Watch Partners consist of neighborhood vol-

unteers, the Chattanooga Police Department and the Hamilton County District Attorney's office.

Court-Watch volunteers follow court cases through the criminal justice system and hence pursue proper sentencing for convicted criminals. The group's participation is growing, but as with any

**CourtWatch's eye is on criminals... letting them know that there is ONE community, and their criminal activities will not be tolerated.**

organization, there is a need for more neighborhood volunteers to ensure continued success.

Many times, as one community works to remove a criminal from their area, the criminal will simply move to the neighboring community. Court-Watch Partners are sending the message that crime affects everyone in every neighborhood. They

work together to eradicate criminal activity in all neighborhoods. CourtWatch's eye is on criminals... letting them know that there is ONE community, and their criminal activities will not be tolerated.

CourtWatch Partners is a vital front-line group combating crime in Chattanooga's neighborhoods. To learn more contact Debbie Johnson at the Neighborhood Services Department, 425-3711.

***"CourtWatch Partners is a vital front-line group combating crime in Chattanooga"***

## C.A.N. Program: Neighborhoods in Action

Neighbors can participate by identifying violations...

How many times have you noticed something in your community which brought down its appearance? We've all seen that abandoned car, or that overgrown yard, and that pile of debris. And you have probably wondered, "Is there anything I can do?"

Yes, there is something you as a citizen can do about the litter, overgrowth, and abandoned vehicles in your neighborhood. As a citizen, you will be able to canvass your neighborhood and turn in the violations to the Neighborhood Services Department.

The Community Awareness Notification program now allows citizens to assist in the identification of code violations. This new program allows residents to participate directly in the inspection process, thereby improving and maintaining their own community.

Currently, Neighborhood Services Department has two neighborhoods partici-

pating in the pilot program. Inspector Lamont Chapman states, "I believe the CAN Program is an effective, efficient way for the community to work together to solve neighborhood problems and clear up the blighted areas within the city."

Before any neighborhood canvassing is done, some classroom training is required, culminating in a

neighborhood walk to identify viola-

tions. Once a violation is identified, the team will complete a violation notice worksheet telling the owner/tenant what the concerns are and asking them for their cooperation in improving and maintaining their neighborhood. Lead inspector Tony Smith comments, "There is going to be a kick-off training session on January 6, 2005 at 5:30 at the Development Resource Center located 1250 Market Street. All fifteen SNI (Strategic Neighborhood Initiative) neighborhoods are strongly encouraged to attend the training."



You "C.A.N." assist code inspectors identify code violations...

# C.N.A.C. Celebrates

## Annual Christmas Party, plans for new year...

**By: Bob Graham, President**

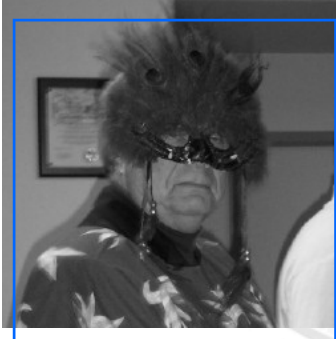
Your Chattanooga Neighborhood Association Council (CNAC) has had another enjoyable year working together to resolve problems experienced in neighborhood organizations throughout the community.

Our annual Christmas Party was held at the East Lake Senior

the Community Foundation, 1270 Market Street. Please join us as



The CNAC holiday guardian angels are back!



This holiday reveler is in disguise... Can you guess who it is?

Center on December 14th and was enjoyed by all the attendees.

Our next meeting will be on January 24th, 2005 at 6:00pm at

we come together to reduce and eliminate crime and blight throughout the Chattanooga area. Happy Holidays to all!

For more information, please call CNAC president Bob Graham at 423-629-8827.

### Upcoming Events

#### January:

- 6 Community Awareness Notification Program Orientation Meeting Development Resource Center (DRC) 5:30p.m.
- 15 M.L. King Birthday
- 18- March 1 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) 425-6218
- 21 Financial Essentials for NonProfit Organizations Center for Nonprofits 752-0300
- 24 CNAC meeting Community Foundation 6:00p.m.
- 31-February 4 Community Awareness Notification Training Neighborhood Services

#### February:

- 1 End of Grace Period for Animal Control Ordinance
- 8 Grant Writing Basics Center for Nonprofits 752-0300
- 28 CNAC Meeting Community Foundation 6:00pm

**Neighborhood Talk**

**TUNE IN!!!**

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



www.chattanooga.gov

City of Chattanooga  
Neighborhood Services Department  
1001 Lindsay Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402

**Contact Info:**

Bob Corker  
Mayor  
757-5152

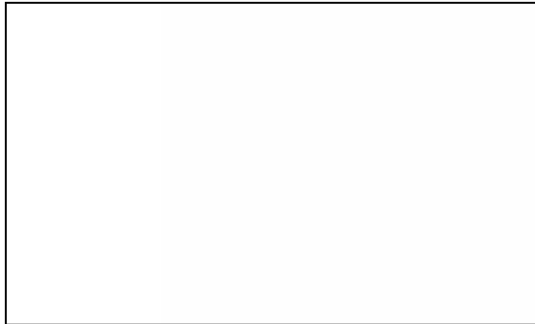
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**ANIMAL SERVICES**  
**(cont. from pg.1)**

...applicants to alter their pets at participating veterinary clinics and animal hospitals. Additionally, animal licenses are available at the Humane Society, \$25 for unaltered pets, and \$5 for those already altered. For more information, please contact the Neighborhood Services animal services division at 643-5242.

**Fresh Ideas for a Fresh New Year!**

Even the most productive and well-organized neighborhood association can suffer from seasons of burnout. Here are a few ideas that can help jump start your newly formed organization or reenergize your existing neighborhood association in the New Year.

Seek funding and resources from businesses and foundations to improve the neighborhood that have goals that are in common with those of your organization.

Work with Crime Prevention and Neighborhood Services to develop a Neighborhood Crime Watch program.

Conduct a skills inventory of the local residents of your neighborhood. This is a great way to discover the talents and skills of individuals that can be shared to contribute to the vitality of the neighborhood.

Recruit members of the neighborhood to develop a list of the clubs, churches and organizations to which people in your neighborhood belong. For assistance with these or any other ideas that your Neighborhood Association may have, contact your Neighborhood Relations Coordinator or call the Neighborhood Relations Division at 425-3741.

Remember, they are your organization too.

Important stakeholders in



JANUARY—FEBRUARY, 2005