



## Neighborhood Newsletter for July 2014

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### Happy Independence Day Neighbors

We hope you will enjoy this coming 4th of July holiday with family, friends, and neighbors. What are your holiday plans? Hosting a parade, planning a festive BBQ, pool party, sharing time at a picnic? There will be all sorts of fun Fourth of July celebrations going on in neighborhoods throughout the city. We'd like you to collaborate with us to capture some of the Independence Day essence in Concord. So if your neighborhood is hosting an event, please capture images and

email them to me at [jzarc@concordnc.gov](mailto:jzarc@concordnc.gov). Write a short comment for each photo so that I will know what's going on. I will compile them and create a photo montage and share on the City's [Flickr](#) Photostream.

**Note:** In observance of Independence Day, City of Concord offices will be closed on Friday July 4. Garbage, recycling, and bulky waste collection by Waste Pro will operate on a **one-day delay for Friday customers**. Visit [concordnc.gov](http://concordnc.gov) for more information.

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### Neighborhood Matching Grant (NMG) Update

Through the Neighborhood Matching Grant Program, the City of Concord is helping neighborhood organization implement a variety of neighborhood improvement. All projects are initiated, planned and implemented by neighborhood members. The program awards up to \$3,000.00 in matching grant funds to eligible recognized neighborhood organizations. Every award is matched by neighborhoods' organization through volunteer labor, donated materials, donated professional services and/or cash. The program encourages collaboration and partnerships with the city and others. Grants are awarded annually by City Council. For FY 2014, all eligible recognized neighborhood organizations were invited to apply for funding. The submittal deadline was Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup> and nine neighborhood organizations submitted applications. These applications have been reviewed, and an award recommendations will be forwarded to Council for consideration. Once approved, grant recipients will be notified. Feel free to call or email me if you need additional information. For more information on the City's Neighborhood Matching Grant Program, visit the program's website at [concordnc.gov/neighborhoodgrants](http://concordnc.gov/neighborhoodgrants).



## Good Neighbor Tip:

### Get to know Concord Code Enforcement

The Code Enforcement Division of the Police Department performs a very important function for the City of Concord. The division is responsible for responding to blight issues within neighborhoods; improving the city's overall appearance; protecting and maintaining property values; enhancing public health, safety and welfare and ensuring quality housing for residents.



The City has 7 full-time Code Enforcement Officers who are assigned to work in different geographic areas of the City. These officers receive and investigate minimum housing and zoning related complaints. Code Enforcement is also responsible for enforcing ordinances relating to nuisances. A nuisance can be an overgrown lawn, trash and debris in yards, indoor furniture on porches, appliances in yards, junked or abandoned vehicles, or overgrown vacant lots. Code Enforcement Officers also write tickets for parking on sidewalks, parking left side of the curb (parking wrong direction of travel), blocking fire hydrants, and parking 25 feet to an intersection. Aside from taking complaints and investigating possible violations, Code Officers attend neighborhood meetings to answer questions and educate residents. It is important that residents with concerns about properties in their neighborhoods become acquainted with their Code Enforcement Officer. To find out which officer is assigned to your area, [click here to view the enforcement area map.](#)

David Barnhardt is the Code Enforcement Manager for the City of Concord and can be contacted at 704-920-5144. To report a code violation, you can call the Customer Care Center at 704-920-5555.

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## Crime Prevention Tip:

### Let's give crime and drugs a going away party!!



Your neighborhood is invited to participate along with many other neighborhoods across the country in the National Night Out Celebration on **Tuesday evening, August 5, 2014.**

National Night Out is a crime and drug prevention event that is sponsored nationally by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by the City of Concord Police Department. Every year, on the second Tuesday in August, neighborhood organizations across the host various events and activities such as block parties, cookouts, parades, rallies and marches, exhibits, youth events, safety demonstrations and seminars, in an effort to heighten awareness of the importance of crime prevention and to further enhance community relations with public safety and city officials.

If your neighborhood is planning a NNO activity, please [register your event](#) today. Registration is free and gives the Police and other city representatives an opportunity to plan to attend citywide events as time and circumstances permit. You do NOT have to be a current Neighborhood Watch neighborhood to participate. National Night Out is for everyone! Register now and begin planning your event.

If you have questions about the City's National Night Out Celebration, contact Captain Betty Stock at (704) 920-5010 or send email to [stocksb@concordnc.gov](mailto:stocksb@concordnc.gov).

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## **Fire Prevention Tip:**

### **5 ways to prevent electrical fires**

Often called the silent killer, carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide. Accidental deaths from carbon monoxide tend to occur in the home during the winter, usually at night while people are sleeping and unaware of the danger. But you can also get CO poisoning in summer if you use a fuel-burning heater or lamp inside a tent or run a gas-burning heater, lantern, or stove in a boat.



Did you know that it is possible to be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time. Because CO is odorless, colorless, and otherwise undetectable to the human senses, people may not know that they are being exposed. The initial symptoms of low to moderate CO poisoning are similar to the flu (but without the fever). Know the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning: headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, sleepiness, and confusion. If you suspect CO poisoning, get outside to fresh air immediately, and then call 911. Install battery-operated CO alarms or CO alarms with battery backup in your home outside separate sleeping areas.

For more information, visit [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org) or contact Concord Fire Department Education Specialist Jeff Bostian, [bostianj@concordnc.gov](mailto:bostianj@concordnc.gov).

## *News Headlines*

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### ***Watch [Cabarrus This Week](#) and learn all about Concord's Rich History***

Cabarrus This Week explores history in the heart of Concord at the Concord Museum. The newest exhibition, entitled "Downtown Concord Everything Old is New Again," features the historic architecture of Union Street around the turn of the 20th Century. The museum is free and open to the public Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The exhibit is on display through October 9.

### ***Parks and Recreation highlights***

Check out the [Summer 2014 issue of Leisure Times](#) for a full list of programs offered by the Parks and Recreation Department.

### ***Streetlight 5k and Frolic coming soon***

Families are invited Downtown for the Streetlight 5K and Frolic on Friday, July 11. The Downtown festival begins at 6:00 p.m. with family amusements and live music by [Watts Left](#). Following a one-mile fun run at 7, the Streetlight 5K begins at 7:30 p.m. Pre-registration is available until July 4 for \$15. Race-day registration is \$20. The 5K starts and finishes on Means Avenue and the course follows the McEachern Greenway and Downtown Connector. More information and online registration are available at [concordparksandrec.org](http://concordparksandrec.org).

### ***Financial Assistance for struggling homeowners***

[The N.C. Foreclosure Prevention Fund™](#) helps North Carolina homeowners who are struggling to make their mortgage payments due to job loss or temporary financial hardship. For qualified homeowners, the Fund can provide an interest-free loan of up to \$36,000 to pay mortgage and other related expenses for up to 36 months. To participate, homeowners may be behind (or at risk of getting behind) on mortgage payments, or in foreclosure. This is a program offered by the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency, a self-supporting state agency. For more information

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### **Neighborhood Meeting Calendar**

**Click the heading above to access the July 2014 Neighborhood Meeting Calendar.**

[https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=i3p4oeup208aisu536m7igt950%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/New\\_York](https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=i3p4oeup208aisu536m7igt950%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/New_York)

The calendar includes meeting dates, times and locations for neighborhood meetings, City Council Meetings, Planning and Zoning Commission Meetings and other city events. Please note that meetings date and times are subject to change without notice. This is a live calendar so changes are made immediately after they are reported. For a full schedule of all recognized organization meetings, visit the program's website [concordnc.gov/neighborhoods](http://concordnc.gov/neighborhoods).

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Neighborhood News is published monthly and information from neighborhood associations and others are welcome.

Please share this newsletter by forwarding it to your neighbors - post an excerpt in your community's newsletter, post a copy on your community bulletin board, or on your Facebook Page.

### **Partnership for Stronger Neighborhoods**

**BUILDING** relationships to  
**EMPOWER** communities  
and **CONNECT** citizens to resources.