



Neighborhood Newsletter for August 2014

Council breaks ground for new city hall building.

On Friday, July 25th, city officials broke ground on the site of the new city hall. The 75,000-square-foot facility will be built next to the Police Headquarters on the corner of Market Street and Cabarrus Avenue. This facility will serve the community well into the future and consolidate the majority of the City of Concord’s administrative services, most of which currently function out of three Downtown buildings. The current municipal building at 26 Union Street S has been in use since 1986 and the structure dates to 1950. To view images from the groundbreaking ceremony, visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/concordnc/>



Construction crews are work now. Follow the construction updates on the [City website!](#)

Council Awards Neighborhood Grants

On July 10th, Concord City Council awarded \$19,578.22 in Neighborhood Matching Grants funds to eight recognized neighborhood organizations. Neighborhood organizations must match the funds awarded by the City of Concord with contributions of volunteer time, cash or in-kind donations of goods and services. The neighborhoods that will receive grants are:



1. **Oakleaf** – Erosion & Flooding Control Project
2. **Fairway Ridge** - Installation of a 6' aluminum fence at entrance
3. **Kings Crossing** - Decorative Street Signs Project (Phase 2)
4. **Afton Village** - Beautification Project
5. **Sapphire Hills** – Erosion Control Project.
6. **Zemosa Acres** – Printing of Newsletters and Neighborhood Directory
7. **Brandon Ridge** – Community Playground - Install additional amenities
8. **Highland Creek** – Installation of Street lights

The matching grant program gives recognized neighborhood organizations an incentive to raise funds, build partnerships, cultivate volunteer and community support all in an effort to facilitate neighborhood self-improvement. For more information on the City’s Neighborhood Matching Grant Program, visit the program’s website at concordnc.gov/neighborhoodgrants.

National Night Out (NNO), “America’s Night Out Against Crime” **Tuesday August 5th**

National Night Out has been celebrated across the country on the first Tuesday in August since 1984. It’s a day when neighborhoods hold parties and special events to strengthen community cohesiveness and crime resistance, and get to know their neighbors and their local public safety officials. Community watch groups and neighborhood organizations from all across the City participate.



In observance of National Night Out on Tuesday, August 5, 2014, Concord Police asks that you leave your porch light on from 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. The porch light is a symbol of openness; it makes people feel welcome, like your neighbors and friends. A turned on porch light symbolizes residents who are aware, observant, and not at all tolerant of crime or misdeeds in their neighborhood. A porch light on says that these houses are people’s homes, that these homes are part of a neighborhood where people live in community—and they care.

Participation is not limited to leaving your porch light on August 5th. Officers would like you to get to know your neighbors better. You can do this by going door to door and introducing yourself if you have not done so in the past. Feel free to organize neighborhood activities such as cookouts, porch sittings, and other events to show your community’s “no-tolerance” for crime. To learn more about National Night Out visit www.nno.org



CANCELLATION NOTICE:

Due to low participation, the National Night Out Kick-off training event that was scheduled for Saturday August 2nd is canceled. We will likely reschedule the training and will notify you of the new date and time later on this fall.

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.

Gearing up for Back to School.

Believe it or not, we’re getting closer to back to school time for Cabarrus County School (CCS) students. That means the summer is almost over. The First Day of School for CCS students is Monday August 25th. CCS recently launched its annual Back-to-School website for parents and students. The site includes school bell schedules, report card and progress report dates, calendars, and lots of other important information to help our parents and students prepare for the new school year.



For more info, visit the [Back-to-School site](http://www.cabarrus.k12.nc.us/backtoschool). <http://www.cabarrus.k12.nc.us/backtoschool>

Concord Wildlife Alliance

Attention wildlife enthusiast! The [Concord Wildlife Alliance](#) invites everyone who is interested in wildlife and natural resource conservation to attend the first public meeting on **Tuesday, August 5 at 6:30 p.m.** at McGill Baptist Church located at the intersection of Poplar Tent Road and George W. Liles Parkway. A speaker from the NCWF will talk and answer questions about [gardening for wildlife](#) and back yard certification. Refreshments will be served.



Good Neighbor Tip:

Eliminate places where mosquitos breed.

Mosquitos can be quite the nuisance in summer months. Talk about ruining a good barbeque. So, good neighbors do their part to reduce the number of mosquitoes around their home by eliminating the places where mosquitoes breed.

A good neighbor actively locates and rids his/her property of the mosquitos' natural breeding ground – water. Look around your property each week and drain any standing water. Check gutters, bird baths and pools to ensure there is no water pooling for mosquitoes. Even a small bucket with standing water can become home to up to 1,000 mosquitoes. It takes about one week for a mosquito to grow from an egg to an adult, so stay on top of dumping water that collects. Pass this information on to your neighbors so that they'll take action as well. Fighting mosquitoes is in fact a neighborhood issue because you're much more likely to reduce the number of mosquitoes in your yard if your neighbors do, too.

If you notice a property in the neighborhood with an unmaintained swimming pool or pond, or an accumulation of other junk items which might result to mosquito breeding, please call the Customer Care Center and make a report (704) 920-5555.



Crime Prevention Tip:



Be Aware. Be Informed. & If you need to... Make the Call.

Crime prevention means being aware of your environment and remaining alert to situations that could make you vulnerable to crime. Crime prevention also means being aware of your neighborhood and community environment and report crime or other emergencies in a timely matter to appropriate authorities. No one knows what goes on in your neighborhood better than you. You may see things or hear things that seem out of the ordinary and may indicate suspicious or illegal conduct. Therefore, please don't hesitate - if you suspect that someone is about to commit a crime or has committed a crime or if you have been victimized you should report it immediately! For any and all emergencies, including Police response, Fire or Medical Emergencies, dial 9-1-1. Don't hesitate or assume someone else will report the crime. Just make the call.

If you have a general question or comment, feel free to reach out to the officers who work in your neighborhood. The best way to get to know the officers who work in your neighborhood is by attending your neighborhood meeting on a consistent basis. Concord Police Officers attend neighborhood meetings to meet with

neighbors, answer questions, and review any crime statistics. Also if you are connecting with neighbors on [Nextdoor](#), feel free to reach out to your Police Captain by sending them a message. [Click here to download a map of Police Districts and Recognized Neighborhoods](#).

Remember, we all have a role to play in making our neighborhood safe. If you observe any suspicious activity in your area, or have any information on suspect(s), please call the Concord Police Department at (704) 786-9155 or 911 if it is an emergency.

Fire Prevention Tip: **In a fire seconds count.**

Each year many fires that start out small end up causing hundreds of thousands of dollars in damage and sometimes injuries and deaths because someone was afraid or too embarrassed to call the fire department. During the early stages of a fire, your actions play a crucial role in the safety of your family and the amount of damage that occurs.

When you discover a fire, you should:

- **Sound an alarm.** You should activate the fire alarm, yell or any other way to alert others of the fire.
- **Evacuate the building immediately**, even if the fire is small. For every minute a fire burns it doubles in size.
- **Call 911 from outside the building.** The Fire Department's goal is to be on scene within 4 minutes, and we meet that goal 90% of the time.
- **Stay outside and do not try to fight the fire.** The Fire Department's personnel are highly trained to handle your emergency quickly and efficiently.



The Concord Fire Department is here to help you! Don't be afraid to call if we can help. For more information, visit www.nfpa.org or contact Education Specialist Jeff Bostian, bostianj@concordnc.gov.

News Headlines

Free paint and chemical disposal

Cabarrus County manages the Household Hazardous Waste Facility located at 246 General Services Drive in Concord. In addition to free disposal of many household chemicals and other products banned from landfills, the facility operates a Paint Swap Shop. Latex and spray paint are available free of charge, simply call 704-920-EARTH (3278) to make an appointment. Learn more at cabarruscounty.us.

Attention wildlife enthusiast!

Everyone is invited to attend the first public meeting of [Concord Wildlife Alliance](#) the newest chapter of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation! The meeting will be held on Tuesday August 5th, 6:30 p.m. at McGill Baptist Church. Learn more about CWA and how to [garden for wildlife!](#) Refreshments will be served.

August Events offered by the Cabarrus County Public Library

The Cabarrus County Public Library provides for the cultural, educational and recreational needs of all Cabarrus County citizens by providing equal access to a variety of books, materials, resources and information. The Library also offers a number of programs and events for adults and children. [Click here](#) to see what is going on at the Cabarrus County Public Library in August.

Piedmont Farmers Market continues

The Piedmont Farmers Market offers several locations where you can sample locally grown produce, honey, fresh baked breads, grass fed beef, hand crafted jewelry, woodworking, pottery, and more! Buying locally grown food gives you fresh flavor and health benefits while supporting the local economy. The newly relocated Downtown Market on Means Avenue next to the Historic Courthouse operates each Wednesday from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. There is also a location at Les Myers Park on Lawndale Avenue Thursdays from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. Visit piedmont-farmersmarket.com for additional locations and more information.

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.

Stay Connected!

Visit the City's website for the latest information and updates at concordnc.gov. Check out our page on [Facebook](#) and our other [interactive features!](#)

Visit concordnc.gov to learn how you can be sure to receive timely updates from the City via phone, text, or email.

Neighborhood Meeting Calendar

Click the heading above to access the July 2014 Neighborhood Meeting Calendar. 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 as reported by the organization. Meetings date and times are subject to change without notice. This is a live calendar so changes are made immediately after they are report. For a full schedule of all recognized organization meetings, visit the program's website concordnc.gov/neighborhoods.

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Partnership for Stronger Neighborhoods

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