



Neighborhood News

April 2016



Effective Communication

Establishing effective and efficient communication strategy is critical to a well-run neighborhood organization. It enhances morale, improves participation and may save your organization time and money. Effective forms of communication include the following:

- **Flyers** – use large, bold and legible fonts to be read from a distance of 10 feet; post in community centers, libraries, clubhouse, schools, churches and local businesses
- **Social media** - Social media is a quick and cost effective way to spread news, and information about meetings and events. [Facebook](#) and [Nextdoor.com](#), are popular among neighborhood groups.
- **Newspaper/Bulletins** – local publications have announcement sections to advertise meetings and events
- **Newsletters** – colorful newsletters are great for providing members with detailed information that would be difficult to promote through word of mouth only. Many organizations publish electronic newsletters that are emailed or available for download from the association’s website or social media channels.
- **Telephone Tree** – set up a contact database and utilize the city’s automated phone messaging system to remind members of upcoming events and meetings. [Email Cherie Jzar](#) for more information on how to utilize the phone messaging system.
- **E-mail** – utilize Mail Chimp (free) or Constant Contact (paid) to send emails to members. These services will help you stay compliant with spam and privacy laws. Also, these services help you track subscriber opens, clicks, and more with real-time reporting
- **Surveys** – use a survey when you are just getting started and when new members attend; tailor the survey to find out what issues are important to neighbors and what events they would be willing to volunteer for; collect contact information for notices
- **Neighborhood Walk-Through** – assign pairs or block captains to go door-to-door to introduce the association and inform members about upcoming events; ask them about their concerns and invite them to attend meetings. Research shows that face-to-face communication is the most effective

The key to success is diversity. Don’t get bogged down in the same routine. Check into different options to determine the communication channels that yield maximum results for the Neighborhood Board and Members. Take advantage of all media types to make people aware of the group’s goals and events.

SAVE THE DATE

Spring into Arts Festival

Saturday, May 14
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Downtown Concord



Come enjoy performing and visual artists in the streets of beautiful historic Concord. Offerings include art vendors, music, food and Creation Station, a children's hands-on activity area.

For more info:
[Concord Downtown Development Corporation](#),
(704) 784-4208



Neighborhood News

April 2016

Neighborhood Matching Grant Program

Workshop scheduled for May 16th



The [Neighborhood Matching Grant \(NMG\) program](#) was established to assist recognized neighborhood organizations in funding projects which will enhance and strengthen neighborhoods. The program awards up to \$3,000.00 in matching grant funds to eligible recognized neighborhood organizations.

Need help completing the Application? Attend the *How to Complete the Grant Application* workshop at **4:00 PM on Monday May 16, 2016 in City Hall located at 35 Cabarrus Ave West**. *RSVP required*. Attendees will be given a brief presentation on program guidelines and guided through each page of the application form including guidance on necessary information needed to complete the required 1 page project proposal.

To Apply

Eligible recognized neighborhood organizations should carefully read the [program guidelines](#) then complete and submit a grant application. Applications are due no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday May 31, 2016. Applications are available for download on the City's website at www.concordnc.gov/neighborhoodgrants or you can request a copy via [email](#).

Remember, it pays to plan ahead! It's never too early to start planning your neighborhood improvement projects.

Clearwater Artists Studio

223 Crowell Dr NW | Concord, NC 28025

Monthly Programs/Events

[Clearwater Artists Studios](#), located in the Gibson Village neighborhood in Concord, NC is a fully equipped studio art gallery.

In 2012 Clearwater opened its doors with a mission to provide a vibrant space for the flow and synergy of creative collaborations, fine art, and artistic events. The facility includes open gallery space, artist studio, and events space. The Gibson Village Neighborhood Association hosts their monthly community meetings in the facility. Clearwater offers classes and workshops in a variety of media for all ages, private and shared studio space for working artists, and a gallery to promote local and visiting artists. For more information, visit <http://www.clearwaterartists.com>.

April 8 - April 26, Charlotte Painter Bryan Wilson, Greensboro photographer Johannes Barfield and Chapel Hill painter William P. Thomas, come together in a JOINT SHOW, celebrating their emergence as professional artists. Visit the Events Page & Calendar to see what's happening at Clearwater.

SON, BROTHER, FATHER
EMERGING ARTISTS AND THEIR MUSES
APRIL 8 - APRIL 26 2016

Johannes Barfield
Photographer

William P. Thomas
Painter

Bryan M. Wilson
Painter

OPENING RECEPTION APRIL 8, 6-9 PM
@ CLEARWATER ARTIST STUDIOS
223 CROWELL DR. NW, CONCORD, NC 28025
ARTIST TALK APRIL 20 7PM (\$5 ADMISSION)



Neighborhood News

April 2016

Be a Good Neighbor

Take away the opportunity for crime.

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY AND HOME FROM INTRUDERS

FOLLOW THESE HOME INVASION PREVENTION TIPS FROM McGRUFF:

- Never open doors to strangers.
- Secure your home with high-security locks and quality doors and window hardware.
- Consider a home security system and even a dog.
- Have an action plan for your family in case intruders enter.

To learn more ways to keep your home safe, visit ncpc.org or contact your local law enforcement agency.

McGruff the Crime Dog®

YOUR LOGO HERE

www.ncpc.org

Think about your home, your car, and even your lifestyle and ask what you could change to take away the opportunity for crime. Lock your car and never leave valuables, even for a few minutes, in the car where would-be thieves might see them. Trim bushes or trees on your property that offer too-convenient hiding places. Also trim where trees and bushes block a clear view of your front door and address from the street or make it difficult for a person to see out of windows in your home. It's important to note that the reality is that you could do everything right and still be a victim of a crime. This is because the suspect is choosing their target based on opportunity. However so, working together neighbors can reduce the potential for the crime by taking away the opportunity.

If you are a victim of a crime, remember you are not at fault. Please report ALL suspicious activity or crime promptly. Dial 911 or (704) 920-5555 for Police Non-Emergency.

2106 Spring Litter Sweep April 16 thru April 30

The 2016 Spring Litter Sweep is scheduled for Saturday, April 16 through Saturday, April 30. [Litter Sweep is a statewide roadside litter removal initiative.](#) Neighborhoods can win a cash prize for collecting the most bags of litter.

If your neighborhood would like to participate in this event, notify your assigned neighborhood liaison or contact [Cherie Jzar](#) (704) 920-5298.

2016 Spring Litter Sweep

Gather a team and collect litter from Concord's roadways. 2016 Spring Litter Sweep is scheduled for April 16 through April 30.

| Bag Pick-up | Supplies | Contest |
|---|---|--|
| City crews will collect the litter you pick up. Tie the orange bag and place at curbside, then call (704) 920-5555 to schedule a pick-up. | Gloves, bags, and safety vest are available for your neighborhood group. Call your neighborhood liaison to arrange pick-up. | Recognized Neighborhoods can win a cash prize for collecting the most bags of litter. \$100 - 1 st Place \$75 - 2 nd Place \$50 - 3 rd Place |

Visit gofast.gov or call 704.920.5298 or send me to jzar@concordnc.gov for more information.

Litter Sweep is a Biennial event sponsored by the City of Concord and the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Concord
High Performance Living

APRIL 16 - APRIL 30



Neighborhood News

April 2016

Neighborhood News

New affordable housing, investment celebrated in Logan Community

City of Concord officials and community members celebrated the opening of "Hilltop Plaza," a more than 2,000 square-foot duplex located at the corner of Shannon Drive SW and Hilltop Avenue SW in Concord's Logan Community. Hilltop Plaza is one of several projects constructed with funding from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which provides grant funds to the City of Concord under the HOME program for new construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing. The duplex contains two 1,034 square-foot units, each with two bedrooms, two bathrooms, a covered porch, and rear patio. Visit concordnc.gov to learn more.

Join the Great Neighborhood Earth Day Challenge

We are encouraging neighborhood groups to join together with neighbors and friends on Saturday April 23, 2016 to work on a beautification or enhancement project. **Great Neighborhood Earth Day Challenge** projects should be held during the weekend starting on Saturday, April 23 2015. The volunteer project organizer can determine the starting and ending time, as well as the scope of the project. However projects should be organized around the following goals: building community, improving the overall appearance of the neighborhood, and articulate the unique identity of the neighborhood. The winning neighborhood earns bragging rights and the privilege of displaying the "Great Neighborhood Earth Day Challenge Sign" for the entire calendar. Last year the Christenbury Neighborhood won the challenge. Sign-up information will be emailed to neighborhood leaders. Call 704-920.5298 or email jzarc@concordnc.gov if you have questions.

Concord firefighters develop and adopt cancer risk mitigation practices

The [Concord Fire Department](#), in partnership with the [North Carolina Association of Fire Chiefs](#) and the North Carolina Chapter of the [Firefighter Cancer Support Network](#), is introducing an affordable and innovative method to help mitigate firefighter occupational cancer risks. Recent [data](#) collected nationally and locally indicate a higher incidence of cancer among active and retired firefighters than the general population. Firefighters responding to incidents are exposed to a number of carcinogens through breathing and skin absorption. The most frequent diagnoses include skin, prostate, lung, and brain cancers. Visit concordnc.gov to read the full article.



Neighborhood News

April 2016

[Neighborhood Meeting Schedule](#)

**Board Meeting*

April 4

Gable Oaks Board Meeting, TBD 7PM

April 5

Roberta Farms - Crossroads Church, 7PM

April 7

Brown Mill - Maranatha Worship Center, 7PM

*Province Greene - 632 Weyburn Drive, 7PM

April 10

Glen Grove- Fire Station #8, 6PM

April 11

Oakleaf - Clubhouse, 6PM

Residents of Historic Concord - 205 S Union, 7PM

April 12

Asheford Green - TBD, 7PM

Gibson Village - Clearwater Art Studio, 7PM

*Highland Creek - Community Clubhouse, 7PM

*Laurel Park - Community Clubhouse, 6:30PM

Morris Glen - Speedway Club, 6:30PM

April 13

Brandon Ridge - Fire Station #8, 7PM

*Winding Walk - 10660 Fairwoods Dr, 6PM

*Wyndham Place - 434 Wyndham Pl NE, 10AM

April 14

[City Council Meeting - City Hall, 6PM](#)

Yates Meadows - Roberta United Methodist Church, 7PM

April 18

*Christenbury - Manor House, 7PM

*Kings Crossing - Clubhouse, 7PM

*Oak Park - Community Clubhouse, 7PM

*The Woodlands - 5719 Woodridge Ct NW, 7PM

April 19

[Planning & Zoning, 6PM](#)

Boulder Creek Annual Meeting- Fire Station #8, 7PM

*Carriage Downs - Clubhouse, 7PM

Silver Hill - Primitive Baptist Church, 6PM

April 20

*Sheffield Manor - Clubhouse, 6:30PM

April 21

[Historic Preservation Commission Meeting, 7PM](#)

Covington HOA - Speedway Club, 6PM

Carolando - TBD (Resident Home), 7PM

Wincoff School Rd & Belvedere - Flow Harris

April 25

Logan Community Meeting - Logan Multi-Purpose Center, 7pm

Moss Creek - Clubhouse, 6:30 PM

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, website, Facebook or Nextdoor page.

[Partnership for Stronger Neighborhoods](#)

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