

*Neighborhood Associations working together
to preserve, enhance, and promote
the Evansville neighborhoods*

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

A Publication of United Neighborhoods of Evansville

Volume 8 Issue 3

20 N.W. Fourth Street, Suite 501, 47708

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From the President.....

Hello Neighborhoods!

The ice and snow storms are over ("sort of", "maybe") and the daffodils and crocus are showing life and expectations. Neighborhood Associations are beginning to come alive with expectations, vigor, and enthusiasm. All of this means that a new season and a new awakening is happening!

There is always much to be done within a neighborhood to increase the value of our neighborhoods as a great place to live. The best way to kill an organization is to try to operate without a vision and a specific plan of work. A Neighborhood Association is no exception to this rule. How do we develop a vision and a plan?

Here is a beginning:

- Officers and Board and/or Steering Committee meet in a two hour session without distractions
- The President or designee prepares a purpose for the meeting and assigns each Board Member to talk with the folks near them in the neighborhood to solicit suggestions for what are the priority needs of the neighborhood
- Using the neighborhood resident sample of ideas determine a vision for the neighborhood (looking at this year and the next) and determine 2, 3, or 4 (no more than 4) goals to be accomplished within this year
- Determine exactly what resources you will need to accomplish each one of the goals. Consider the type of people you will need and how many you will need for each task. What finances and material resources you will need. What government agency or non-government agency could be of assistance and any other that comes to mind
- You must have the total commitment of this group to focus on and accomplish the goals
- Develop a calendar of beginnings and deadlines and stick with them
- Document the stages of completion by copies of the written plan, photos, etc. These can be shared at the Sparkplug Celebration and makes great items for the media to feature your neighborhood activities.

Some neighborhood associations try to do too much and some barely do anything. By having a vision and plan of work and following each of them, you are guaranteed success, participation, pride, and satisfaction of a job well done.

If you need assistance in visioning and/or planning invite Paul of the UNOE staff to meet with you and he will guide you through the process. He is available during the day and/or evenings.

David Ballew, President
United Neighborhoods of Evansville

WWW.UNOEYANSVILLE.ORG

Website

Community Resource Links

- ❖ American Red Cross
- ❖ City of Evansville
- ❖ Courier & Press
- ❖ Evansville City Clerk
- ❖ Evansville Department of Metropolitan Development
- ❖ Evansville Parks and Recreation Department
- ❖ Evansville Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- ❖ Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library
- ❖ Keep Evansville Beautiful
- ❖ Pigeon Creek Greenway Passage
- ❖ Step Ahead of Vanderburgh County
- ❖ Vanderburgh County Assessor

UNOE Board Officers:

David Ballew, **President**

Chris Cooke, **President-Elect**

Bob Head, **Vice-President**

Linda Jones, **Secretary**

Dick Tredway, **Treasurer**

UNOE Staff:

Paul Farmer,

Neighborhood Services Coordinator

Lori Gardner,

Operations Manager

Stephanie Caudle,

USI Intern

Eartha Thomas,

AARP Assistant

New Department of Metropolitan Development Director

United Neighborhoods of Evansville welcomes
Mr. Thomas Barnett of Paducah, KY

Education

University of Texas at Austin, School of Business
University of Texas at Austin, School of Humanities

BA: English; Minor: Economics

Murray State University, Murray, Kentucky

Master of Publication Administration (MPA)

Honors (Grad School GPA: 4.0)

Qualifications

- American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)
- Master of Public Administration; State Certified CDBG Block Grant Administrator
- 14 years experience in program creation, implementation, administration
- Senior management experience in government & higher education
- \$15-20 Million+ total departmental & project budgetary responsibility
- Effective departmental management using a team approach for multiple project deadlines including: public policy analysis & presentations; program design & implementation; current & long range planning; affordable housing, residential & commercial construction management; community & neighborhood redevelopment; economic development, incentive, & financing package creation; contract management, grants procurement and management.

Work History Examples

Director, Planning Department May 2000 to Present. City of Paducah, Paducah, Kentucky. Senior Staff Manager with staff of twelve. Department duties include long-range strategic planning, Current Planning & Zoning; Community Development & Neighborhood Revitalization; City Grants portfolio oversight and administration; Section 8 Program; Artist Relocation Program, Special Projects, Property Acquisition, Contract Management, Economic Development Activities & Project Financing.

Staff support to Planning Commission, Board of Adjustment, Historical & Architectural Review Commission; Urban Renewal & Community Development Agency.

- Artist Relocation Program: Creation, Planning, Implementation & Principal Author of the 2004 National APPA Outstanding Planning Award winner for Best Community Initiative: *Lowertown Neighborhood Plan*.
- Completion of a \$2.5 million MLK Revitalization program including the construction of 20 single family homes, demolition of over 50 dilapidated structures, and the code enforcement of 100 units resulting in the relocation of sixty families to HQS standard.
- Completion: \$750 HOME owner Rehab & Homebuyers Program leveraging \$1 million of private investment which resulted in rehab or construction and sale of twelve new homes to LMI families;
- A \$1.4 million HOME Rental Rehab Downtown upper floor residential development project –part of a 5-year, \$7 million downtown revitalization project including Streetscape, Upper story residential development, façade loans, & utility/infrastructure improvements mixing federal (HOME, CDBG, TEA grants), state, & local government & private funds.
- \$5 million Fountain Avenue Neighborhood Planning process—Adoption for March—2007

Mr. Barnett will begin his work in Evansville by April 1st, 2008.

Traveling City Hall Program

T The next Traveling City Hall Program will be on Wednesday, March 19th from 5:30-7:30 pm at Nazarene Baptist Church, 867 E. Walnut, 47713. All City residents are welcome at each TCHP.

C As a reminder, Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel holds a Traveling City Hall Program in a different neighborhood each month. The meetings give the public the chance to ask questions and voice concerns, in person and one-on-one outside of normal business hours, to the Mayor and City Department Heads.

Good Neighbor Policy

Being a good neighbor and conscientious pet owner can help keep your dog safe from intentional acts of cruelty.

Unsupervised, noisy, and destructive pets are often targets of animal cruelty. When your dog is outside, keep him or her safely confined and under watch as much as possible. This can help keep your pet safe, as well as discourage your dog from engaging in disruptive behaviors. Address any concerns of your neighbors in a positive way. If you see any suspicious acts, report it to Animal Control at 435-6015.

~Marlin Beck, CPDT

President Animal Control & Education Commission



2007

“Neighborhood Sparkplugs of the year”



Mary Gilles from Diamond-Stringtown Neighborhood Association was recognized as the Sparkplug from her neighborhood.

“Mary has worked for the Diamond-Stringtown Neighborhood Association since its beginning 13 years ago. She has served as treasurer that entire time. She has given her time and talents without being asked. She is a dedicated volunteer to the community. Thank you Mary!”

~Robert Thomas,
Diamond-Stringtown N.A.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOP FOR SENIORS

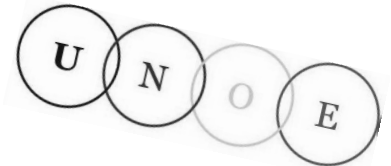
SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2008

REGISTRATION: 9 AM
PROGRAM: 9:30 AM TO NOON
QUESTIONS TO FOLLOW

*ST. JAMES WEST, UMC
3111 HILLCREST*

SPEAKERS: CHRISTINE MARTIN
Disaster Resistance Corporation
&

PAUL FARMER
UNOE



Sponsored by: West Side Neighborhoods
Hilltop, Helfrich, Poplar Grove,
Western Terrace, Lamasco, Mt. Auburn, & UNOE

Legislative Happenings

The Indiana Legislature is in its final month. Many important bills are in both the Senate and House. Each is considering the other side's bills and these bills will soon be assigned to "Conference Committees" for final deliberation and then forwarded to the Governor for his signature. The "Conference Committees" are composed of an equal number of Democrats and Republicans from both the House and Senate.

You can view legislative action and full bill texts on line at: www.in.gov/legislative. To access the Directory of Legislators, you can visit: <http://www.in.gov/legislative/legislators/>.

In this short session of the Indiana General Assembly, the House and Senate have made property tax reform their top issue (HB1001). Both the Senate and House passed a comprehensive property tax bill. Our local legislators are optimistic that a solution will be reached by the end of the session on March 14th that will provide a basis for ongoing reform!

The final Meet Your Legislature session is over for this year. UNOE is one of the sponsors of these sessions and appreciate our Legislators for their time, energy, commitment, knowledge and their willingness to share ideas and to receive ideas and opinions of their constituents.

Besides property taxes sever other very important bills are being considered. Including but not limited to: HB1290 (Avery) which continues to allow older youth from ages 18 to 21 to continue to receive foster care benefits if they choose to.

HB1165 (Avery) addresses issues that create youth homelessness and helps to bridge these youth to the appropriate services. The bill also contains educational provisions that promote educational continuity for foster youth and those in shelters.

HB1318 (Senate version Becker) under this Bill, continuous spinal cord or brain injuries Research would be funded by a 30 cent fee added to the motor vehicle registration in Indiana. The research could help reduce health care costs, stimulate economic activity and improve research programs. Those soldiers coming home from the war with brain injuries have increased dramatically. Research will help provide care for them and others in need of medical treatment in the future. Currently more than 160,000 Hoosiers are living with a spinal cord or traumatic brain injury.

The important point in all of this is that our local legislators are deeply involved in support of quality and needed legislative action to benefit the quality of life for the citizens of Indiana. Keep up with the progress of these bills and offer your support via letters etc to them and to the Governor Daniels when the bills appear on his desk for his signature.

Our Local Legislators are:

Rep. Dennis Avery
Rep. Suzanne Crouch
Rep. Phillip Hoy
Rep. Trent Van Haaften

Senator Vaneta Becker
Senator Robert Deig

Announcements

- **UNOE Finance Committee Meeting**—Tuesday, March 11th, 9:30 a.m. at the UNOE office.
- **UNOE Parks/Trees/Beautification Committee Meeting**—Thursday, March 13, 4 p.m. held at the UNOE office.
- **South Sector Citizens Meeting**—Thursday, March 13th at 6 p.m. located at 315 Taylor Avenue. For more information, call South Sector at 435-6037.
- **Solid Waste District Board Meeting**—Tuesday, March 18th, 4 p.m. in Room 301 of Civic Center.
- **East Sector Citizens Meeting**—Tuesday, March 18th at 6 p.m. located at 4900 Shamrock Drive, Ste. 105. For more information, call East Sector at 485-3055.
- **UNOE Board Meeting**—Wednesday, March 19th, 4 p.m. at the UNOE office.
- **West Sector Citizens Meeting**—Thursday, March 20th at 6 p.m. located at St. Lucas UCC, 33 W. Virginia Street. For more information, call West Sector at 435-6135.
- **UNOE General Membership Meeting**—Thursday, March 27th from 6:30—8:00 p.m. The meeting will be at the Red Cross Center on Stockwell Road.
- **Robert Stadium Public Hearing**—Tuesday, April 1st, 5:30—7:30 p.m. at the Centre, Locust Rooms A-D.
- **UNOE Parks/Trees/Beautification Committee Meeting**—Thursday, April 3rd, 4 p.m. held at the UNOE office.
- **Recycle Day**—Saturday, April 5th, 8:00 a.m.—12:00 noon at Old Wal-Mart West (University Drive). For more information call the Solid Waste District at 436-7800.
- **UNOE General Membership Meeting**—Thursday, April 24th from 6:30—8:00 p.m. The meeting will be at the Red Cross Center on Stockwell Road.
- **Recycle Day**—Saturday, May 3rd, 8:00 a.m.—12:00 noon at Evansville Day School. For more information call the Solid Waste District at 436-7800.

Great American Cleanup

The Great American Cleanup is a program presented by Keep America Beautiful. Keep America Beautiful is a nationwide non-profit organization of which Keep Evansville Beautiful is an affiliate. The goals of Keep America Beautiful and its affiliates are to educate individuals about litter prevention and ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

Cleanup dates are April 19th, May 17th and June 21st. If you or your neighborhood would like to join Keep Evansville Beautiful and the GAC, please call Juliene West at 425-4461.



RECYCLE DAYS

8:00—12:00 noon

April 5—Old Wal-Mart West
(University Drive)

ITEMS TO BRING:

(Please be sure items are cleaned and sorted).

Aluminum Cans	Metal food cans
Cardboard	Catalogs/Magazines
Newspaper	Mixed paper
Glass containers	#1 & #2 plastic bottles

(Vanderburgh County Residents Only)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CALL THE SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
436-7800



Tire Amnesty Day

Saturday April 19, 2008

8:00—12:00 Noon

Civic Center Parking Lot

- The first four tires will be accepted for recycling free of charge. A \$1.00 fee per tire will be charged thereafter.
 - Car and light truck tires only
 - We prefer that rims be removed from tires
 - Water and mud must be removed from tires
 - Tires from businesses will not be accepted.
 - No commercial vehicles allowed.

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS



The Chronic Disease Program of the Vanderburgh County Health Department offers free blood pressure screenings at different locations throughout every month. Please contact their office for dates, times, or more information at 435-5015.

Neighbor to Neighbor

UNOE Office
20 N.W. Fourth Street
Suite 501
Evansville, IN 47708

Non-Profit Org.
POSTAGE
PAID
Evansville, IN
PERMIT NO. 1087

Return Service Requested

Did U.N.O.E.?

While you contemplate the results of the 2008 Legislator's and Governor's property tax packages, you can use these figures to predict how the changes will effect you. The property tax income will need to come from somewhere and somehow.

Where Do Your Property Tax Dollars Go?

	<u>Vanderburgh County-2007</u>	<u>Warrick County-2007</u>	<u>Posey County-2006</u>
Schools	43.2%	65.3%	67.2%
City	25.5%		
County	24.2%	20.7%	18.2%
Town		5.3%	7.5%
Library	4.8%	4.2%	3.1%
Township	1.6%	3.5%	2.9%
*Special Units	.6%	.9%	1.0%
State	.1%	.1%	.1%

*Special Units include Solid Waste Management, public transportation, and airport authorities.

Vanderburgh County—Who Pays Property Tax?

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Residential	61.4%	56.5%
Commercial	23.8%	20.9%
Industrial	5.9%	6.3%
Agriculture	2.2%	1.7%
Utilities	.4%	.3%
Exempt	6.3%	14.3%

Source: 2006/2007 Data provided by the
Department of Local Government and Finance



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

March 27, 2008

Thursday 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Red Cross Building—29 S. Stockwell Road

Program: TBA

