

SERA Monthly Bulletin

July 2007

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Southeast Raleigh Assembly

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SERA PUBLIC MEETINGS IN JULY

SERA Meetings	Date and Time	Location
Executive Committee	July 17 at 5:30pm	Municipal Building Room 305

Issue Teams	Date and Time	Location
Equity and Business	July 9 at 1 pm	Chamber of Commerce
Housing	July 10 at 12 pm	Municipal Building Room 237
Public Safety	July 10 at 6:30 pm	Safety Club, 513 Branch St.
Community Capacity	July 12 at 5:30 pm	310 W. Martin St. Room 201

Coordinator's Corner

**'Fair Isaac' keeps SCORE (300-850) of your money management!
Who? FICO!**

'Understanding your FICO score can help you manage your credit health,' according to the FICO [Fair Isaac] website, which offers a brochure full of tips available for downloading at www.myfico.com/downloads/Brochures.aspx#cfa. It states that 'knowing how your credit risk is evaluated, you can take actions that will lower your credit risk – and thus raise your credit score over time. A better FICO score means more financial options for you.'

Author Vicki Lee Parker, wrote an article in the N&O on Sunday June 10, 2007 in the Work and Money Section. She states that there are changes coming to FICO scores that will affect 60 million people. Your score could go up or down affecting your access to the cost of credit.

You may obtain one free copy of your credit report a year from each of the three major credit reporting agencies. Contact P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 303348-5281 1877 FACT ACT (1977-322 8228) www.annualcreditreport.com.

If you want to be informed and prepared the Triangle Family Services' Consumer Credit Counseling Program, as a valuable resource, can be reached at (919) 821-0790 x307, they ask that you leave a message with you name and contact number.

If you are a college graduate consider 'Zero Debt for College Grads' by Lynette Khalfani. Join Michelle Singletary 'The Color of Money' on-line July 5 at noon to address questions along with the author at www.washingtonpost.com.

Visit our website at www.raleighnc.gov/sera and to get involved, come to our meetings!! Our meetings are open to the public. We want to encourage all members of the community to participate in SERA activities.

Reporting In

Housing Issue Team

The Housing Issue Team met on June 5 to discuss three topics: (1) the adding of a 'criminal element' provision to the City's PROP [Probationary Rental Occupancy Permit] Ordinance; (2) ways to address the high amount of foreclosures in SE Raleigh; and (3) discussion on the usefulness of the Best Practices Report on Housing and Redevelopment Areas in Raleigh. The PROP Ordinance – 'Criminal Element' took precedence in order to complete group dialogue and develop recommendations back to the City Council's Law & Public Safety Committee. These recommendations were presented to the last Full Assembly on June 14 included the addition of a criminal element and a landlord registry. The majority of the Assembly members voted to support the Housing Issue Team's document as presented to be an attachment with a cover letter including issues raised during deliberation and forwarded to the Law & Public Safety Committee.

The Housing Issue Team meets on the first Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 10 with continued discussion on Foreclosure and a developed response to the 'Best Practices Report'.

Public Safety Issue Team

The Public Safety Issue Team met on June 5 to discuss Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) next steps and the upcoming National Night Out on Tuesday, August 7. The CPTED will move forward into Phase II after some project planning. The projects are in two stages (1) would lead to the creation of a workbook used as a model and guide for neighborhoods applying CPTED principals and (2) determine the financial impact on city resources to help implement recommendations from CPTED findings.

The Public Safety Issue Team usually meets on the first Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be held on July 10th to discuss the next phase of CPTED and activity on sponsoring National Night Out [NNO]. The purpose of NNO is to strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. It is designed to send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. This year, the Public Safety Issue Team will support five (5) neighborhoods by providing food and promotional items. Target the national sponsor has been contacted!



Community Capacity Building Issue Team

The next edition of the SERA newsletter, the *Southeast Raleigh News*, will feature Housing issues in Southeast Raleigh. To view the last issue on Healthcare, click here for the pdf: [SERA Newsletter](#). Please email the SERA Planning Technician, Tory.Geiger@ci.nc.us to be added on our mailing list.

The Community Capacity Building (CCB) Issue Team has committed to supporting several community events this summer. The issue team reported to the Full Assembly on June 14th at the Urban Design Center downtown that they would review their work plan to refocus for fiscal year 2008 beginning July 2007.

The Community Capacity Building Issue Team meets the second Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be held on July 12.

Equity & Business Development Issue Team

On June 7, 2007, the Equity and Business Development Issue Team hosted a business luncheon to share opportunities for business development. The three 'F's' included Franchising, Façade Grants for SE Raleigh, and Financing options. Staff will integrate the Façade Grant program into the existing city program.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, July 9. The items on the agenda include finishing the planning work to develop a small business resource guide.

Community Connections



This Weekend!

Spare the Rod, Spoil the Child

This gospel play has a twofold purpose: to raise awareness in effort to reduce both the number of new cases of HIV and the number of minority youth who start smoking.

June 29 and June 30 at the Memorial Auditorium.
Call 919-831-6060. 2 E. South Street, Raleigh NC



Parks & Recreation Leisure Ledger

A guide to Raleigh's Parks & Recreation Department's programs, special events, and facilities.



"The Amistad Saga: Reflections"

Seasonally, an outdoor drama is presented to tell the story of the Amistad and for tourists to view the mutiny scene of Cinque and the African Hostages.

Don't miss the 9th annual production of the **only** outdoor drama *written, produced, and directed* by and about African Americans in the US!!

Dates: July 19-22 and July 26-29, 2007

Gates open nightly at 7:45 PM; pre-show starting at 8:00 PM. Production starts at 8:30 PM.

Location: African American Cultural Complex
119 Sunnybrook Rd, Raleigh, NC 27610

Admission: Adults \$10, Children (6-12) \$6
Call 919-212-3598 for group rates

Saint Augustine's College Youth Basketball Camp Taught by Basketball MVPs

The camp runs **July 18 through July 20**, and is open to all youth ages 10-17. Tuition is \$99 and includes a T-shirt and lunch. Only 75 spots are available and applications are accepted on a first come first serve basis. For more information, please contact Wade Harris at (919)872-8007 or e-mail wharris@phase2personaltraining.com.

Arts Commission, N.C. Writers' Network to Host Summer Reading Series

The City of Raleigh Arts Commission, in collaboration with the North Carolina Writers' Network, is hosting the Raleigh Summer Reading Series when it comes to Peace College's Main Hall on **July 9 at 7:30 p.m.** Appearing at the series will be well-known authors Betty Adcock and Bridgette A. Lacy and two of their mentees, Kelly Starling Lyons and Nora Hutton Shepard.

The Raleigh Summer Reading Series is part of the North Carolina Writers' Network Summer Writing Residency being held at Peace College July 8-13. Workshops in poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction will be led by authors Evie Shockley, Bill Henderson, Sebastian Matthews, and Carol Henderson. The writers will also be reading from their works at Peace College's Main Hall on July 11 at 7:30 p.m. For additional information about the North Carolina Writers' Network Summer Writing Residency week, contact Marjorie Hudson at marjorie@ncwriters.org or 967-9540.

Citizens' Participation Leadership Institute Accepting Applications for Fall Session

The Citizens' Participation Leadership Institute (CPLI), a program offered by the City, is accepting applications for its fall session. CPLI provides citizens with an opportunity to participate in educational programming designed to enhance leadership potential and talents of individuals who want to grow stronger in their civic engagement with Raleigh's municipal government. The fall session will last a total of 10 weeks, from **Sept. 6 to Nov. 1**. Sessions will be held on Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Shaw University. Dinner will be provided at 5:30 p.m. at all sessions. Only 25 students will be accepted for the fall session. To obtain more information about the Citizens' Participation Leadership Institute, including a brochure, contact the City of Raleigh Community Services Department at 831-6100 or visit the City's website at www.raleighnc.gov/communityservices



THE STATE CAPITOL FOUNDATION

**Wednesday, July 4th from 11a to 3p
On State Capital Grounds.**

FREE!!!

Enjoy a family-oriented Independence Day celebration with a patriotic concert and picnic. Wander over to the Capitol's "Old Fashioned 4th" area and see how people in North Carolina celebrated the 4th long ago. Musical performances, food and historic demonstrators round out this patriotic day of fun.

Raleigh Chief Looks for More Minority Firefighters

A yearlong effort to add more African-American firefighters to the ranks of the Raleigh Fire Department is bearing fruit. But officials said they plan to keep working on increased diversity. Before Fire Chief John McGrath joined the department last year, African-American men represented just 12 percent of Raleigh's firefighting force. The city is more than a quarter African-American.

A graduating class of recruits last fall bumped that minority percentage to 14 percent, and McGrath said he plans to continue the push. Twelve members of the department have been dedicated to recruitment year-round, attending job fairs and other community events to find potential recruits. Officials said they expect about 600 applications this year -- the application process opens at the end of June -- for 15 to 20 positions. For the article and related stories, click here: [Minority Firefighter Articles](#).

Parks and Recreation Department Fourth of July Celebration

The City Parks and Recreation Department is inviting citizens to the 4th of July Celebration on **Wednesday, July 4 at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds**, located at 1025 Blue Ridge Boulevard. This fun-filled family event will include interactive games, inflatables, live entertainment, music, fireworks and more. Gates open at 2:30 p.m. and activities begin at 3 p.m. Public parking is available at various gates at the fairgrounds. Admission and activities are free of charge.

The 2007 4th of July Celebration schedule is as follows:

JIM GRAHAM BUILDING SCHEDULE:

- o 3-5 p.m. Gino Karaoke Show
- o 5-6 p.m. Magic In Motion Illusion Show
- o 6-8 p.m. Gino Karaoke Show
- *Inflatable Rides and Carnival Games 3-8 p.m.

ROVING ENTERTAINMENT ON THE MIDWAY

- o 3-5 p.m. Juggler Paul Miller
- o 5-7 p.m. Stilt Walker/Uncle Sam

EXPO CENTER SCHEDULE

- o 3:00- 8:00 NC Fisheries Mobile Aquarium
- o Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department Booth Displays. Activities and displays in Nature, Athletics, Arts, Adventure, and more.....

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- o Food vendors
- o NC Commissioner of Agriculture Watermelon give-away
- o Raleigh Jaycees Turkey Shoot

MAINSTAGE SCHEDULE

- o 5 :00 –5:45 p.m. Triangle Taiko (Japanese Drumming Group)
- o 7 p.m. – Set 1: The Drifters
- o 8 p.m. – Set 2: The Drifters
- o 9 p.m. – Color Guard Presentation and Singing of National Anthem
- o 9:15 p.m. – Fireworks Show

In the event of inclement weather, all indoor activities will remain as scheduled and all outdoor activities will be cancelled. The fireworks display will be rescheduled for Thursday, July 5 at 9:00 p.m. For more information, contact 831-6854.

Applications Being Accepted For Fall Session Of Raleigh Neighborhood College

The RNC, a program offered by the City of Raleigh in partnership with Wake County, is taking applications for its fall session. The RNC provides citizens with an opportunity to learn about City and County governments and the services provided by both. Students will explore new and enhanced ways of increasing citizen participation. They also will meet and interact with City and County staff members and other Raleigh residents. The fall session will last 13 weeks, from **Sept. 6 to Nov. 29**. Classes will meet Thursdays from 6 to 9 p.m. A light dinner will be provided at all classes. Only 25 students will be accepted for the fall session. For more information about the RNC, including a brochure and application form, contact the Community Services Department at 831-6100.

Economic Development



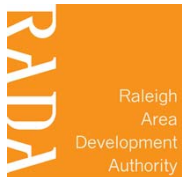
Small Business Assistance Program

Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises
 Contact person is Luther Williams
 Click here: [Small Business Assistance Programs](#)



Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce

800 S. Salisbury Street Raleigh, NC 27601
 tel 919-664-7000
 Website: www.raleighchamber.org



Raleigh Area Development Authority

127 West Hargett Street, Suite 301
 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601
 tel: 919-807-8400 fax: 919-664-5274
 Website: www.rada-nc.com



Raleigh Business & Technology Center

900 S. Wilmington Street Raleigh, NC 27601
 tel 919-836-8618
 Website: www.raleighbtc.com



Self-Help Ventures Fund

Mr. Louis Rogers III
 19 W. Hargett Street Suite 507
 Raleigh, NC 27601
 (919) 755-2232
 Website: <http://www.self-help.org>



Wake Tech Community College Small Business Center

Contact Ivan.hankins@sba.gov
 Or call 919-363-3214
 They do no-collateral business loans
 Website: [SBA Link](#)

City Departments - SERA collaborations - www.raleighnc.gov

Planning Department: [Planning Department Link](#) - Façade Grant & SER Streetscape Plans; [East Gateway Visioning Ad Hoc Committee](#); [Business Luncheon](#)
 Provides guidance for the growth and change of the City Of Raleigh in order to maintain a high quality of life for all. (919) 516-2626;

Public Affairs Department: [SERA Newsletter](#); [Annual Celebration/Interview](#)
 Develops and markets information about City services to improve Raleigh's quality of life and to increase understanding and trust in City government. (919) 890-3100.

Community Development: [Housing and Redevelopment Study](#); Provides affordable housing for Raleigh residents and improves the living conditions in the City's Redevelopment Areas. (919) 857-4330.

Raleigh Police Department: [National Night Out](#); [Crime Prevention through Environmental Design \(CEPTED\)](#); Working with the community, the Raleigh Police Department exists to preserve life, peace and property through conscientious attention to our lawful duties. (919) 890-3335

Community Services: Provides innovative services and programs which consist of but are not limited enhancing the quality of life for the people and communities of the City Of Raleigh (919)-831-6100

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