Not every neighborhood and community is the same as another. A community is defined by its people, and people are different. In the early part of the 20th century, neighborhoods were well defined by groups of people with the same customs, nationalities, and race. One group of streets may have a completely different set of music, sights, food scents, and people than a set of streets a few blocks down.

Today, our communities are much more blended, comprised of a variety of customs, families, and traditions. Our communities change over time, but, if you look, and chat with those that have been around a while, you may learn about some interesting places you never knew existed. An old amusement park ride; all that’s left of a summer tourist spot. The bank that used to be the site of world movie premiers in the 1950s. The Civil War Monument hidden behind the new Dollar Store.

**Directions:** What makes your neighborhood and community special? What hidden stories can you find? What great current activities, buildings, parks, or memorials does your community boast?

Research your community. Interview people in the know. Visit your local library and Historical Society. Then, create a brochure that touts the fantastic reasons to come visit your community.

Your brochure can be tri-folded, or a poster, but should include relevant community information, both historical and current. You can tell about holiday events, parades, concerts, famous people, events in history that occurred right where you live. As you ask questions, and listen, you’ll be amazed.

**Thinking Ahead**

Some neighborhoods have a name. Does yours? ______________________________________

Famous People born here: _________________________________________________________

Events in History: __________________________________________________________________

Climate here: hot/cold/rainy/snowy What I like best about my community: ____________