

*Contact Information:*

Jessica Didow  
610.655.6304  
media@readingpa.org



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CEDAR STREET BLOCK PARTY**

READING, PA. — The aroma of hot dogs and hamburgers will filter through the Cedar Street Neighborhood on Saturday, September 6, as residents celebrate their Summer Shutdown block party.

“Earlier this month, we had a great neighborhood clean-up,” Cedar Street resident Luis Varela said. “This is a way for us to let everyone know that we are organized, we’re enthusiastic, we’re fighting crime and forming personal connections with our neighbors.”

From 2:00 – 9:00 PM, the 500 block of Cedar Street will be blocked off and tables with homemade food and school supplies for the children will be set up. Varela had to get 75% of the residents of the block to sign a petition saying they approve of the street closing, and all the residents were in favor of the event.

While keeping the neighborhood clean and safe is the primary purpose of this group, Varela says it is also a way for residents to get to know each other.

“Attending events like this helps City Administration and City Council meet members of the community we serve and hopefully hear what their concerns are, it helps us do our job, representing them and hopefully making the city a better place,” Mayor Spencer commented.

Residents of the Cedar Street Neighborhood plan to establish regular monthly meetings. Both homeowners and renters can attend meetings and participate in activities.

“The more people know each other and look out for each other, the safer and happier the neighborhood can be,” noted City Councilman, Dennis Sterner.

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