

Tri-Street a model of success

Sunday, July 15

Carroll County Times

Today, the Tri-Street Association is holding its annual block party. The event features diverse musical acts, a yard sale and information from various community organizations.

The Tri-Street Association area encompasses the West Main Street, Pennsylvania Avenue and Union Street but the group is in the process of reaching out to other communities and areas in Westminster.

The organization started as a community group called Drug Action02. It was formed as a response to the drug activity in the area.

In 2004, the name changed to the Tri-Street Association because the drug problem had subsided and the group wanted to focus on unity. It's nice to see a community organization coming together to address issues. It's even better when the group is successful and continues to grow.

This year the association is focusing on smoking. As Darcel Harris, the association's treasurer said, "[Smoking] is harder to quit than any illegal drug."

With the passage of a state-wide smoking ban in bars and restaurants, which goes into effect in February, efforts to quit smoking have escalated in recent months.

The Tri-Street block party is designed to reach out to youths in Westminster. The Carroll County Health Department will provide information on smoking cessation.

The association has already helped address a problem in the area with rounding success. Now it is looking at providing healthy alternatives for youth in Westminster.