

Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 12, No. 2 – Tuesday, January 15, 2019

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Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhoods to report news important to Knoxville's residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-4382. News deadline: 5 p.m. Mondays.

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1. Unique Fundraising Opportunity Offered

Are you looking for a creative way to raise money for your neighborhood projects and engage your neighbors?

Office of Neighborhoods (OON) is partnering with Community Television of Knoxville (CTV) and registered neighborhood organizations to present the inaugural Knoxville Neighborhood Treasure Hunt.

This will feature a three week online neighborhood fundraising auction that will culminate with a live, televised, 3 hour event.

What do neighborhood organizations need to be doing now?

- Start looking around in your attic, basement, closets, and storage units.
- Identify items in good condition to donate to the treasure hunt.
- Alert neighbors, family members, and friends to do the same.
- Identify a neighborhood representative to “approve” items donated on the neighborhood’s behalf.
- Have the neighborhood representative call Kevin to have all questions answered.

Here is how the auction will work:

Registered neighborhoods groups will invite neighbors and neighborhood businesses to donate “treasures” to raise money for your neighborhood organization. Donations can include new items, slightly used items, and antiques. Anyone may donate an item on behalf of a neighborhood group.

Between now and April, neighborhood groups will inventory, approve, and photograph their items to be auctioned.

CTV and OON will co-produce short neighborhood videos featuring interviews with neighborhood residents highlighting activities and events that take place in the neighborhoods.

The online auction will launch, Friday, Apr. 12 and begin taking bids. The auction will run from Apr. 12 through Friday, May 3.

CTV will air a three hour televised special on Friday, May 3, from 6-9 p.m., featuring recorded neighborhood videos and live auction bid updates. Winning bids will be announced at 9:00 p.m.

Neighborhood representatives will coordinate treasure item pickups and payments. There is a simple way to keep track of this online. Neighborhood groups will keep 100% of the proceeds from the sale of treasures donated on their behalf. Which neighborhood will bring in the most amount of money?

There will be two opportunities to learn more about this unique fundraising idea at the OON Grant Opportunities Workshops on Thursday, Jan. 31, and Saturday, Feb. 2. See the next article for additional information.

If you have questions, please contact Kevin Jeske-Polyak at CTV 865-215-4352 or at Kevin@ctvknox.org.

2. OON Partners with Parks and Rec to Host Grant Opportunities Workshops

Learn about ways to raise money for your neighborhood through a workshop with the City of Knoxville.

The Office of Neighborhoods and the Parks and Recreation will jointly host a workshop to assist neighborhood organizations that apply for funds.

The same workshop will be held offered on two dates, Thursday, Jan. 31, from 5:30-7 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 2, from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Public Works Building, 3131 Morris Ave.

Kevin Jeske-Polyak will present information about the Knoxville Neighborhood Treasure Hunt and Online Auction.

Additional tips for fundraising for neighborhood projects will be offered, including online auctions, crowd sourcing, and advocacy with public officials.

All are welcome to attend. If you have questions, please email Debbie Sharp at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov.

Anyone needing a disability accommodation to be able to attend the open house or any public meeting should contact Stephanie Cook at scook@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-2034. For an English interpreter, contact Title VI Coordinator Tatia M. Harris at 865-215-2831.

3. Neighborhood Photos Needed

The Office of Neighborhoods wants your photos to be featured at the 2019 Neighborhood Conference!

We are now accepting photos from neighborhood events during 2018 to be displayed at the 2019 Neighborhood Conference. Photos, in digital or print form, will be accepted until Monday, Apr. 22, at 5 p.m. If submitting digitally, please provide in a .jpg format.

Please submit photos to Hannah Freeman at hfreeman@knoxvilletn.gov or mail photos to Room 528, 400 Main St., Knoxville TN 37902.

4. Properties to Be Addressed at BZA

The City of Knoxville Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) will meet Thursday, Jan. 17, from 4-5 p.m. in the City County Building's Small Assembly Room, 400 Main St., to discuss properties up for consideration.

Addresses on the agenda include 7621 Kingston Pike, 2806 Painter Ave., 2924 Sutherland Ave., and 405 Black Oak Dr.

BZA listens to appeals on denied building permits. Applicants whose requests have been denied by the City's Plans Review and Inspections Department can request a variance from the Zoning Code requirements or appeal an administrative official's interpretation of the Zoning Code to the BZA.

The five BZA members, nominated by the Mayor and confirmed by City Council, hear zoning appeals the third Thursday of each month. Applications for appeal are typically due the Monday prior to the BZA meeting, the third Monday of the month.

The board meets prior to the 4 p.m. meeting, in the City County Building, Room 511 at 3 p.m. to discuss the pre-agenda.

Keep up with how the BZA might impact your neighborhood. Watch for signs indicating a pending decision on a particular piece of property in your area. Look for signs with the word "variance," these are good indicators of BZA items. Most other signs indicate properties up for Metropolitan Planning Commission review. Learn more about MPC notification signs by following the link.

If your group would like to request and study the paperwork on a particular appeal, decide whether to take a position on the appeal, and then attend the BZA meeting to voice the group's support or objections, call the Plans Review & Inspections Department at 215-3669. Your group can also request a postponement to allow time to meet with the applicant.

Decisions of the BZA can be appealed within 15 days of the BZA decision to Knoxville City Council. Appeals of a City Council decision are made to Chancery Court within 60 days of the City Council decision.

5. Neighbor of the Year Nominations Are Now Open!

Nominations for the Neighbor of the Year are now open and will be accepted through Monday, Mar. 4, 2019.

Be thinking...do you know someone who goes the extra mile to make his or her neighborhood a better place? Perhaps they welcome new neighbors, volunteer to help neighbors in distress or work tirelessly in service to the entire neighborhood and/or neighborhood organization. Or maybe they make everyone feel included.

The Diana Conn Good Neighbor of the Year Award is presented annually to a City of Knoxville resident who has devoted time and talent in service to his or her neighbors and neighborhood. The award is meant to honor someone who makes a positive contribution at the neighborhood level without seeking recognition for their service.

All nominees will be recognized at The Neighborhood Conference on May 18, 2019 at the Knoxville Convention Center.

Fill out the nomination [form](#) and return it to Debbie Sharp either by email at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov or by mail to: Office of Neighborhoods, City of Knoxville, P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN 37901.

If you have questions, you may also call 215-4382. To learn more about previous winners, visit the [website](#).

6. City Services Announce Schedule for MLK Day Holiday

While the City of Knoxville will be closed on Monday, Jan. 21, in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday, regular trash and recycling pickup will operate as usual.

Waste Connections WILL run regular Monday residential recycling and garbage pickup routes on Jan. 21, as will City downtown trash and recycling services.

The City's five recycling drop-off centers will also be open; however, the Goodwill attendant will not be available to take household goods donations.

Please note, the City's Solid Waste Management Facility, 1033 Elm St., will be closed on both Saturday, Jan. 19, as well as Monday, Jan. 21.

7. Events Planned Across the City to Honor MLK Day

With MLK Day coming up on Monday, Jan. 21, Knoxville's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission has a long list of events to honor the life and legacy of the "Dream and the Dreamer."

Events have been planned by the Commission and partners across the city. For details, see www.mlkknnoxville.com. (Please note some of these events may require reservations or tickets.) Highlights include:

-Friday, Jan. 4 – Monday, Jan. 21, the Knoxville Arts & Cultural Alliance Emporium Center is hosting a Gallery of the Arts Tribute, featuring local arts to honor the legacy of Dr. King. Visit the [Arts & Cultural Alliance](#) for more information and exhibition hours.

-Wednesday, Jan. 16: Church Street United Methodist Church is hosting the MLK Celebration kick off with an Interfaith Prayer Service, inviting people of all faiths across the community to come together in worship.

-Thursday, Jan. 17: The Leadership Educational Symposium and Leadership/Awards Luncheon will be held at Rothchild Catering Center. A highlight of the MLK celebration, the symposium will provide a dialogue on social justice issues, followed by a luncheon to honor some of those who make a difference in our community.

-Friday, Jan. 18: The Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance will host a Community Forum, featuring fellowship, conversation, and music!

-Saturday, Jan. 19: Saturday is packed full of celebration! In partnership with the Knoxville Chapter of Jack & Jill of America, the Commission will host a Youth Symposium at Austin East High school to nurture and develop the next generation of leaders. A special Teacher In-Service Training will also be held to tie professionals into the life and legacy of Dr. King. The day also includes the YWCA Race Against Racism, a 5k run/1 mile walk to celebrate diversity and peace.

-Sunday, Jan. 20: Mark your calendars for a spectacular Night with the Arts Tribute. Featuring performances from the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, the Carpet Bag Theater, and the MLK Holiday Celebration Choir, the Tennessee Theater will host an evening full of multi-faceted artistic presentation.

-Monday, Jan. 21: The morning of MLK Day will kick off with the Memorial March Parade, stretching from Chilhowee Park to the Overcoming Believers Church on Harriet Tubman St. The parade will culminate with a Memorial Tribute Service featuring a key note speaker.

8. Input Needed for North Central Streetscape Landscaping

The City's Office of Redevelopment invites stakeholder, including area residents, business and property owners, to provide input for the landscaping of North Central Street. An open house will be held on Tuesday, Jan 22, 5:30-7 p.m. at All Occasions, 922 N. Central St.

At the open house, guests will be able to review plans and renderings for just over one mile of landscaping, including the project's centerpiece: a linear park planned for a section of North Central Street and Baxter Avenue.

Landscape architects with Hedstrom Design have proposed a design and worked with the City's Urban Forestry and Horticulture staff to recommend an assortment of plants,

shrubs and trees that will suit variables like climate, concrete planters, height and maintenance requirements.

The timing of the end of construction and beginning of landscaping depends on Knoxville's winter weather.

After the open house and public input, the City will put the contract for plant installation out to bid via its Purchasing website at www.KnoxvilleTN.gov/bids.

The North Central Street Streetscape Project began in January 2018 and encompasses the 13 blocks between West Depot and Woodland avenues.

As of this week, the concrete curbs, bump outs and driveways on the east side of North Central Street between Anderson and Scott avenues have been poured. In the next two weeks, crews will work on the west side of Central between Scott and Baxter avenues.

Additional project details are available at <https://www.northcentralstreet.com>.

Anyone needing a disability accommodation to be able to attend the open house or any public meeting should contact Stephanie Cook at scook@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-2034. For an English interpreter, contact Title VI Coordinator Tatia M. Harris at 865-215-2831.

9. Community Development Seeks Input

The City of Knoxville's Community Development Department is having a public meeting to review priorities, strategies and accomplishments from the 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan; discuss affordable housing as a priority activity; explain constraints that impact how HUD funds are allocated; and seek input moving forward.

The meeting will be on Thursday, Jan. 31, beginning at 5:30 p.m., at the O'Connor Senior Center, 611 Winona St.

From this public meeting, Community Development will develop the Annual Action Plan Update to the Five Year Consolidated Plan for the proposed use of U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Act, and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds for program year 2019-2020.

In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be postponed until Tuesday, Feb. 5.

The O'Connor Center is wheelchair accessible. Persons who wish to request disability-related accommodations including sign-language interpreters should contact Stephanie Cook, City of Knoxville ADA Coordinator at 865-215-2034 or scook@knoxvilletn.gov. Please request accommodations at least ten days in advance.

Community Development is committed to meeting the needs of non-English speaking residents, including foreign language interpreters and materials translated in the appropriate language. For an English interpreter, contact Title VI Coordinator Tatia M. Harris at 865-215-2831. Please request accommodations at least ten days in advance.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, your feedback is still appreciated. Please send in your comments/questions to Linda Rust at lrust@knoxvilletn.gov, or by mail to Linda Rust, City of Knoxville, Community Development Department, P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN 37901, or by fax to 865-215-2962. Call 865-215-2357 for additional info.

10. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar (click link for online calendar)

Call 215-4382 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in [this Google calendar](#).

If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to attend a City of Knoxville public meeting, please contact Stephanie Brewer Cook at scook@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-2034 no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. For an English interpreter, contact Title VI Coordinator Tatia M. Harris at 215-2831.

Other Calendars

Here are other online calendars that cover events outside of the neighborhood realm:

- [Arts & Culture Alliance](#) (There's More to Knoxville)
- [Arts & Fine Crafts Center Classes](#) (City of Knoxville)
- [City of Knoxville General Calendar](#)

About This Newsletter

*** This Advisory is produced on most Tuesdays of the year.*

*** Ideas and contributions are welcome. We reserve the right to edit submissions.*

*** Deadline for news & calendar items: 5 p.m. Mondays*

*** May be copied and forwarded via neighborhood e-mail lists and newsletters.*

*** See past issues at our Website: <http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/neighborhoods>*

*** Don't have Internet access? Call 215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.*