

Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 12, No. 14 – Tuesday, April 9, 2019

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Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhoods, we report news important to Knoxville's residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-3232. News deadline: 12 noon on Fridays.

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1. North Knoxville Gathers to Discuss Neighborhood Safety

North Knoxville neighbors have called a meeting to discuss neighborhood-wide safety, following the gun violence related to the Vibe, a nightclub on North Broadway. Please join neighbors from **Edgewood Park Neighborhood Association** and **Oakwood Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association** on Thursday, Apr. 11, at 6:30 p.m., at the Christenberry Rec Center, 931 Oglewood Ave., to discuss neighborhood safety. The meeting is open to all concerned neighbors, and all neighborhoods are welcome. The meeting is an effort to discuss possible steps to combating future violence related to this establishment.

Representatives from KPD, City Council, neighborhood associations, and local churches will be on hand. The community plans to take this opportunity to come together and support the family who tragically lost their loved one.

At this time, the Vibe has been temporarily closed. A hearing to discuss whether the club should close permanently will be held on Thursday, Apr. 11, in Knox County Criminal Court.

2. Forest Heights Completes Certification as a Wildlife Habitat

Forest Heights Neighborhood Association (FHNA) has been working tirelessly since April 2018 towards certification as a Wildlife Habitat with the [National Wildlife Foundation](#) (NWF). On Mar. 22, 2019 they succeeded in their efforts and earned the required points.

The wildlife habitat team consists of Cindy Spangler, Deedee Blane, Amy Hathaway, Bo Baxter, Sara Bryant, Cindy Estes, Maria Gall, Melanie and Drew Edwards, Todd Wright and Susan Passarello.

FHNA kicked off this project with a clean-up on Bearden Village Greenway a year ago; they have held a “Bats in the Park” workshop with the assistance of Zoo Knoxville to teach the benefits of bats in our environment; and received Office of Neighborhoods grant money to aid in a “Build a Birdhouse” Workshop. They have also created a permanent display in their pocket park to educate about plants, encourage biodiversity, and teach people about becoming a Wildlife Habitat.

South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association was the first community in Tennessee to become certified as a Wildlife Habitat in 2013. The **City of Knoxville** followed suit to be the first city in Tennessee to become certified as a Wildlife Habitat in 2017.

Historic Fourth and Gill Neighborhood Association and the **Town of Farragut** are also registered and working towards their certification.

If you want to learn more about how to certify your neighborhood as a wildlife habitat, visit the [NWF](#) certification page.

3. Lonsdale International Food and Craft Market Is Back This Week

Did you miss the Lonsdale International Food and Craft Market while they were closed? This season kicks off Saturday, Apr. 13, at Lonsdale Park, adjacent to the elementary school at 1317 Louisiana Ave., NW.. Come and get the delicious pupusas from El Salvador, Mexican tamales, amazing Iraqi food and other delicious treats that keep bringing people back!

The market takes place every second Saturday of the month from April through September, and, starting this year, runs from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Emerald Youth will help “kick off” the Markets with a friendly soccer game. Kick off for the kids’ game is at noon, and for teens, 1 p.m.

Because it is outside, the Market will be cancelled in cases of severe weather. For more information and updates, you can follow their Facebook page [here](#).

4. Uptown North Celebrates Easter

Uptown North invites Knoxville neighbors to the sixth annual Easter Celebration at Belle Morris Elementary. It is free and open to the public.

The celebration will have an Easter egg hunt, games for kids AND adults, family portraits with the Easter Bunny, free food, and a Safety Saturday event. The Safety Saturday event will take place after the festivities, and families can visit with emergency responders, tour inside emergency vehicles, and see a bomb robot in action!

The event will be on Saturday, Apr. 20, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., at 2308 Washington Pike. For more information, check out the [Facebook page](#).

Uptown North is an umbrella group for several different neighborhood organizations in North Knoxville, such as: Old North, Historic Fourth and Gill, Oakwood Lincoln Park, Edgewood Park, Fairmont-Emoriland.

5. NAC to Hear about Affordable Housing and Consolidated Plan

The [Neighborhood Advisory Council](#) (NAC) marked Affordable Housing as one of the most important topics to address in 2019.

To speak to that, Becky Wade, Community Development Director, Linda Rust, Community Development Administrator, and Hope Ealey, Project Specialist, will continue the conversation about how neighborhood organizations can work with developers and City departments for mutual benefits.

Also on the agenda, Community Development seeks input for the Consolidated Plan and how neighborhoods can spread the word on why it is important to give input.

This NAC meeting will be Wednesday, April 10, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the Cansler YMCA, 616 Jessamine St. All are welcome to attend.

For accommodations, contact Stephanie Brewer Cook at 215-2034 or scook@knoxvilletn.gov. For translation services, contact Tatia Harris at 215-2831 or tharris@knoxvilletn.gov.

6. Learn How to Use KGIS Maps, Neighborhood Maps

The Office of Neighborhoods will host two workshops on how to make full use of www.kgis.org. KGIS - the Knoxville, Knox County, KUB Geographical Information System - operates the multi-layered mapping website.

The first, a beginner class, will be held from 6 to 8 p.m., on Thursday, April 11; the second, an advanced class will be held from 6 to 8 p.m., on Thursday, April 25. Both classes will be held at the Public Service Building, 3131 Morris Ave.

Registration is required; please contact Debbie Sharp at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov or leave your name and contact information at 215-4382.

Wi-Fi is available. The first 15 participants to register can bring a laptop to log on to the website during the workshop.

Why is this workshop important to neighborhood organizations? Simply because KGIS can answer lots of the questions you and your neighbors may have, including:

- ** Who owns that house up the street?
- ** Are taxes paid up on the blighted house down the street?
- ** What is the zoning in our neighborhood?
- ** What school zone are we in?
- ** Who is our state representative?
- ** Are we in a FEMA flood zone?
- ** How can I see if a property in our neighborhood is on the next Planning Commission agenda?

In addition to picking up tips and understanding how to use various tools and applications, participants will learn how to navigate the neighborhood KGIS app – the [Neighborhood Groups Viewer](#), which maps the boundaries of neighborhood groups in the city.

7. Dana Dalton Wins March Prize Drawing

Congratulations to Dana Dalton who won the March prize drawing for the Office of Neighborhoods' Office survey. The survey opened on Friday, Mar. 30 and will be live until **Friday, May 31**. Prizes are offered monthly until the survey is closed.

As Knoxville continues to grow, we are committed to growing with Knoxville's neighborhoods. In order to ensure that we are providing quality services to all of Knoxville's neighborhoods (and their residents), we are implementing this survey to gain a deeper perspective of how our work can evolve with Knoxville. The organizational survey is intended to provide the Office of Neighborhoods with constructive feedback on its mission, communication methods, and initiatives.

The Office of Neighborhoods would appreciate it if you took the survey and shared it with your fellow Knoxvilleans. The survey takes 15 minutes and is anonymous. Survey responses can be saved and submitted at a later date. At the end of this survey, each participant will have the opportunity to enter into a monthly prize contest. At the close of each month, a winner will be selected from the month's participant pool. Prizes will vary by month and no participant is eligible to win more than one prize.

Survey input and personal information for the drawing are kept separate.

If you have questions or would like to request a paper copy, contact Hannah Freeman at hfreeman@knoxvilletn.gov or call 215-3456.

8. Six Nominated For Good Neighbor of the Year Award

Each year, the Office of Neighborhoods (OON) encourages neighbors to nominate someone who goes above and beyond for their neighborhood, without looking for recognition.

This year, OON received six nominations.

Nominees are: Christine Winton, nominated by Rita McKinnon, lives in **Mechanicsville Community**; Donna Teeters, nominated by Jennifer Archer, lives in **The Highlands HOA**; Douglas Miller, nominated by Emily Baxter, lives in **We Care Neighborhood Watch**; Deborah Thomas, nominated by Emily Ellis, lives in **Oakwood Lincoln Park**

Neighborhood; Katy Hawley, nominated by the neighborhood of **Historic Fourth and Gill**; and Liz Diviesti, nominated by Tanya Fields and Logan Mulford, are also from **We Care Neighborhood Watch** group.

These nominees will be honored at The Neighborhood Conference on Saturday, May 18, during the lunch program when Mayor Madeline Rogero will announce the winner.

Join us on May 18 and remember to register for the conference [here](#).

9. OON Challenges Neighborhoods to a National Night Out Competition

National Night Out is all about police and community partnerships. What will your neighborhood do to celebrate? We look forward to the creativity of our neighborhood groups at this event each year!

National Night Out events are an opportunity to build bridges and relationships with our police. What can you do to reach out to the police in your area and show them you appreciate their hard work?

We are challenging all neighborhood organizations to register to participate in the celebration and take part in the contest. We will have three winning categories:

1. Most interesting theme – take a photo that demonstrates the theme.
2. Most people – take a photo and provide a count of people participating.
3. Most creative activity – take a photo of an activity in action with a description.

How will it work? You will need to document the event through photos, so be sure to have a designated photographer. More details will be announced closer to time.

What will you win.....an amazing trophy and bragging rights!

Why are we telling you this now? If you plan to participate this year and you [Sign-Up](#) to participate in National Night Out prior to The Neighborhood Conference, you will be able to stop by Knoxville Police Department's education booth and pick up signs for your event. This will help officers, neighbors, elected officials, and candidates know where your celebration will be held.

For more information, contact Debbie Sharp at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-3232.

10. Neighborhood Conference Transportation Options

The Annual Neighborhood Conference is fast approaching and there are several options to consider when planning transportation to and from the Conference. These options include riding a KAT bus, hitching a ride with VAT, or carpooling!

The Office of Neighborhoods is happy to announce that KAT will be providing free bus rides Saturday, May 18, to The Neighborhood Conference! Just tell the driver you are going to the *Neighborhood Conference*, and your ride is free!

Some bus routes go by the Convention Center. If not, you can ride to the Knoxville Station, then simply hop on Route 42* (Bay M) - remember to tell the driver you are going to the *Neighborhood Conference*.

At the conference, visit the KAT booth to get a pass for your free ride home.

**Route 42 leaves the station at 15 minutes past the hour, starting at 7:15 a.m.*

Visit the KAT website at www.katbus.com, or call Customer Service at 865-637-3000 to help you plan your ride to the conference!

CAC's Volunteer Assisted Transportation (VAT) is providing free rides for KCDC residents who are over 55 and/or who have a disability. To arrange transportation through VAT, contact Hannah Freeman at 215-3456 or hfreeman@knoxvilletn.gov.

In addition, consider carpooling to the Conference. It saves on gas, helps reduce congestion downtown, and provides an opportunity for you and your neighbors to visit.

11. Treasure Hunt Auction to Open

If you haven't heard of the [Knoxville Neighborhood Treasure Hunt and Online Auction](#), then this is your chance! Community Television of Knoxville, the Office of Neighborhoods, and participating Knoxville neighborhoods are teaming up to help raise funds for neighborhood groups and the Neighborhood Conference. The auction will open on Friday, Apr. 12, and close with a live televised 3-hour special on CTV on Friday, May 3, from 6-9 p.m.

To participate, neighbors can look around in their attics, basements, and other storage areas for "treasures" to donate. Treasures can be a wide variety of items, but must be in working condition. After finding a "treasure", neighbors can simply fill out the short [Neighbor Item Donation Form](#). At auction, 100 percent of the item's proceeds go to the neighborhood group (or Neighborhood Conference) of your choosing.

To view the catalogue of treasures, bid on an item, or watch the televised 3-hour special on May 3, visit <http://hunt.ctvknox.org/>.

12. Planning Commission to Meet on April 11

Knoxville Knox County Planning will meet Thursday, April 11, at 1:30 p.m., in the City County Building Main Assembly Room, 400 Main St.

53 items are up for discussion on this month's agenda. To see if any of these properties might affect your neighborhood, check out the [April 11, Planning Agenda](#).

To learn more about Knoxville Knox County Planning, and how the process works, visit Planning's [website](#). To look up a property in your area, check the status of a property on the list, or see a map-view of developments near you, check out the new [Groundbrakers Application](#).

13. Chapman Highway Implementation Plan and Walk With Elected Officials,

Tuesday, Apr. 16, is a big day for South Knoxville. Not only do neighbors have the opportunity to provide input on the [Chapman Highway Implementation Plan](#), they can also learn more about the [Urban Wilderness Gateway Park Project](#) during the Walk with Elected Officials.

On Apr. 16, from 5 to 7 p.m., at the South Doyle Middle School, 3900 Decatur Dr., Knoxville-Knox County Planning will be hosting an open house on Chapman Highway improvements. This workshop is part of the year-long project to prioritize construction projects for the section of Chapman Highway between Blount Ave. and John Sevier Highway. The first open house and input gathering session was held in September 2018. Proposed projects are based on past studies, an analysis of data received during the previous workshop and an online survey conducted last fall. The information and priorities for Chapman Highway will be communicated to the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) to encourage funding for improvements for road design with a focus on safety.

The [Walk with Elected Officials, hosted by Bike Walk Knoxville](#), will begin at South Doyle Middle School on April 16, at 6 p.m. City Council members and other elected officials will walk the connection between the planned Gateway at the James White Parkway terminus and the Urban Wilderness. This one-mile loop will begin and end in the South Doyle Middle School parking lot. Community members are encouraged to join.

All are invited to join for an after-party of food and drinks at SoKno Taco Cantina following the walk.

For more information, visit [Chapman Hwy. Implementation Plan](#), [Urban Wilderness Gateway Park Project](#) and/or [Walk with Elected Officials](#).

For accommodations, contact Stephanie Brewer Cook at 215-2034 or scook@knoxvilletn.gov. For translation services, contact Tatia Harris at 215-2831 or tharris@knoxvilletn.gov.

14. Gardeners, Take Notice

Knoxville has been a Tree City USA for 27 years. What does that mean?

The Tree City USA program has been greening up cities and towns across America since 1976. It is a nationwide movement that provides the framework necessary for communities to manage and expand their public trees.

More than 3,400 communities have made the commitment to becoming a Tree City USA. They have achieved Tree City USA status by meeting four core standards of sound urban forestry management: maintaining a tree board or department, having a community tree ordinance, spending at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry and celebrating Arbor Day.

The purpose and intent of the City of Knoxville's Trees on Public Property Ordinance is to increase public safety while encouraging the conservation, protection, and management of trees on public property within the city. Because of the unique benefits trees provide the community in assisting the natural control of solar heat, soil

conservation, flood control, air pollution and noise, they provide a haven for community birds and wildlife; as well as, relief for citizens from aesthetic degradation of the manmade environment. Trees also help increase the economic appeal of a community. In furtherance of this purpose, this ordinance also creates a city tree board and establishes an urban forester to achieve these objectives.

The ordinance is aimed at public property; property deemed commercial, industrial, business, or multi-family and subdivision property. Excluded are single family properties, properties boarding airports, and properties housing nursery stock trees for resale.

Because of this, our City has many great resources for neighbors wanting to increase their tree planting. The City has an Urban Forester on staff and a website featuring a [tree list](#), [trees to consider before planting](#), and a list of [invasive plants](#).

Also, on the City's website you can find [natives of Knoxville](#), created by a former AmeriCorps Member, Wyatt Pless, as part of the effort to help the City of Knoxville become a certified Wildlife Habitat.

Although the best time to plant many species of tree is in the fall, many people are thinking about it now. Check out these great resources for later in the year.

15. Old City Market Starts Up for Spring

Old City Market plans to kick off the first Spring Market on Saturday, Apr.13.

Come out to Jackson Ave., in the Old City, for an outdoor market showcasing artists, crafters, and creative makers. The Old City Market meets the second Saturday of the month from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Follow the [Old City Market](#) to learn more, or to reserve a booth. Spring Market Applications for vendors are due May 31.

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

Call 215-3232 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in [this Google calendar](#).

If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation 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 before the meeting you wish to attend. For an English interpreter, contact Title VI Coordinator Tatia M. Harris at 215-2831.

Other Calendars

Additional online calendars that cover events outside the neighborhood realm include:

- [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 email lists and newsletters.*
- ** See past issues at our website: <http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/neighborhoods>*
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