

To subscribe to this newsletter via email, fill out this form at <http://eepurl.com/b2Rk9T>. You will then receive an automated email. Reply to this automated email to secure your free subscription.

Newsletter (PDF version): <http://bit.ly/NeighborhoodAdvisory-2019-06-18>

1. Old North Celebrates First Creek Beautification
2. Fourth and Gill Awards Summer Golden Shovel Award
3. Office of Neighborhood Recognizes “Best Practices”
4. City Elections Important to Neighbors
5. Tennessee Places Handheld Phone Ban for Drivers
6. City Seeks Input on Future Uses for Chilhowee Park
7. City Plans Discussion for Eighteenth St. Circulation Meeting
8. Knox County Health Department Seeks Input
9. [Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar](#) (click link for online calendar)

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.

[Like us on Facebook:](https://www.facebook.com/KnoxvilleNeighborhoods) <https://www.facebook.com/KnoxvilleNeighborhoods>

1. Old North Celebrates First Creek Beautification

The Old North Knoxville Neighborhood Association will host a potluck on Thursday, June 26, beginning at 6 p.m., at First Creek, 1240 Cottage Place. The rain date will be Friday, June 27, same place and time.

The potluck will celebrate the recent beautification of First Creek. The neighborhood would like to thank Sheryl Ely, City of Knoxville Director of Parks and Recreation, and Margareth Olsson an Old North resident.

All are welcome to attend. Please bring a potluck dish and an acoustic musical instrument if you play one! The organization will provide water and utensils. There will also be juice boxes and hot dogs for children.

To RSVP or for more information, visit the Old North [Facebook page](#).

2. Fourth and Gill Awards Summer Golden Shovel Award

The **Historic Fourth and Gill Neighborhood Organization** “Gillbillies” take neighborhood beautification VERY seriously.

With a neighborhood collective called the “Fourth and Gill Woolly Bears,” they have many neighbors dedicated to historic preservation, natural beautification, and master gardening.

Each quarter, the Gillbillies host a Golden Shovel Award, passing on an ornate golden shovel to the neighbor with the most beautiful yard. Neighbors have the opportunity to nominate and vote for their favorite yard, and this spring the competition was fierce!

For the Spring 2019 Golden Shovel, the award went to Melynda Whetsel on Luttrell St! The Summer nominations are going in now! Check out the [Fourth and Gill Neighborhood website](#) to see who the lucky winner will be!

3. Office of Neighborhood Recognizes “Best Practices”

Have you ever wondered how a group is verified as an actual neighborhood organization? Many have. It is especially important to know if a group follows best practices and represents the citizens of the neighborhood. This information is important when communicating with the City of Knoxville, City Council, Knoxville-Knox County Planning, and official organizations.

In order to evaluate neighborhood organizations on their development, the Office of Neighborhoods will begin requesting items for new designations for every neighborhood organization beginning July 2019. These designations recognize that organizations change and grow and the stages reflect the group's growth.

Going forward, neighborhood organizations will be categorized as a Start-Up, an Informal, an Organized, a Proactive, an Outstanding, or an Exemplary Group. Details on how to achieve these will be coming soon.

Neighborhood Organizations will provide documentation to the Office of Neighborhoods, demonstrating their processes and organizational style. The designation process will allow neighborhood organizations to benefit from various City programs in different ways, depending on their needs.

Some of the information that will be requested will include:

- Most recent copy of the neighborhoods' bylaws.
- Election process and updates for officers, including the new members' names and contact information.
- Documentation of voting and associated notice. (For example, if you want your neighborhood to vote on an issue; did you notify the entire neighborhood of a meeting with a flyer, have the meeting, and then cast votes? If so, we want to see the flyer and meeting minutes.)
- Documentation of how a group votes or achieves consensus when supporting or opposing an issue in front of City Council or other groups. (For instance, did your board give permission to speak in front of City Council, or did your entire membership give permission; and how were each notified there would be a vote?)

The OON Newsletter will provide additional information such as next steps and links to forms to provide information. Organizations will have six months to provide information before designations are made. The designation will change with time as organizations change. Organizations will be re-evaluated once a year or as paperwork is handed in.

This process is meant to encourage best practices and provide clarity for organizations. This is a new process and is meant to be fluid to provide opportunities for neighborhood organizations to improve on their time.

If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Sharp at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-4382.

4. City Elections Important to Neighbors

Multiple elected official positions are up for election in 2019. The positions include: Mayor, City Councilmember At Large Seat A, City Councilmember At Large Seat B, City Councilmember At Large Seat C, City Councilmember District 5, and Municipal Judge. City elections are non-partisan.

For the primary elections, the final day to register to vote is June 29. Early voting begins Aug. 7 and ends Aug. 22. The regular voting day for primary elections is Aug. 27.

For general elections, the final day to register to vote is Oct. 7. Early voting begins Oct. 16 and ends Oct. 31. The regular voting day for general elections is Nov. 5.

For information on the candidates themselves, Mayoral forums, City Council candidate meet and greets, and more, visit [Go Vote, Knoxville!](#)

If you are not sure if you are registered, or you need to register, go to [Knox County Election Commission's](#) website.

5. Tennessee Places Handheld Phone Ban for Drivers

Effective July 1, the 111th Tennessee General Assembly approved hundreds of new state laws.

From sports betting to child-operated lemonade stands, the new laws cover a wide range of topics. Included in this list, is a new Handheld Phone Ban while driving.

Effective July 1, drivers age 18 and older will be prohibited from holding a phone with any part of their body while driving. If you wish to talk on your phone while driving, you will need to have a hands free system, ear piece, wrist piece, or other voice-controlled form of communication.

Any drivers caught holding their phones while driving will be fined \$200. Drivers under 18 are already prohibited from using a handheld phone while driving.

For a list of important laws taking effect next month, check out this article from the: [Tennessean](#).

6. City Seeks Input on Future Uses for Chilhowee Park

Do you want to have a say in the future uses of one of Knoxville's best public assets?

Take a minute to fill out the [Chilhowee Park Community Survey](#).

This survey is part of a strategic study of possible future uses for Chilhowee Park and Exposition Center. The survey is designed to help understand the community's current use of the park, as well as, what people might like to see for the future.

The survey is open from June 17 to June 30, and paper copies are available at the Chilhowee Park offices by calling 215-4311.

Make sure your voice is heard! Fill out the survey, today, and spread the word.

7. City Plans Discussion for Eighteenth St. Circulation Meeting

Do you live or work in the Fort Sanders Neighborhood?

Join City Engineering Staff and Council Person Stephanie Welch on Thursday, June 20, at 5:30 p.m., in the Howard Baker Jr. Center, 1640 Cumberland Ave., Room 204, for a discussion on potential changes to Eighteenth Street.

The especially narrow, north most section of Eighteenth Street has resulted in some circulation issues and parked cars have been hit. Engineering will discuss issues and possible solutions.

Your opinion is important; please take the time to attend the meeting and help us spread the word.

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.

8. Knox County Health Department Seeks Input

The Knox County Health Department (KCHD) has released a list of the top fourteen health issues in our community.

They are: obesity in adults; major depressive episodes among adolescents; obesity in children and adolescents; senior falls; melanoma cancer deaths; sexually transmitted diseases; diabetes; any tobacco use by adolescents (including use of e-cigarettes or vaping products); prostate cancer cases; suicide attempts/suicidal thoughts by adolescents; percentage of women receiving adequate prenatal care; lung cancer deaths; overdose-related deaths; and depression among adults.

What are the biggest health issues in Knox County? Which ones are most important to you? How effectively are community organizations addressing them? KCHD would like your input.

Please click this [link](#) to give your opinion by June 28, 2019. Input gathered here will be included in the 2019 Community Health Assessment, a comprehensive snapshot of health in the community.

For more information, please contact: Erin Read at erin.read@knoxcounty.org, 865-215-5549 (O), or 615-585-4066 (C).

[9. 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 scCook@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>*

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