

Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 13, No. 24 – Tuesday, June 30, 2020

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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. OON Welcomes Hayley Howard

We would like to welcome Hayley Howard, a student working on her master's degree in the college of Social Work with the University of Tennessee, to the Office of Neighborhoods (OON). She will be interning with our office for the next year.

Howard started working (remotely due to COVID-19) in the OON office this month and will help our office with research, writing policies, and creating "How to..." videos for the community.

If she calls, emails, or visits during your neighborhood meeting (when it is safe to meet), please welcome her.

2. Knoxville Plans to Celebrate July 4 – Neighborhood Style

Looking for a fun way to celebrate the Fourth of July this year and still practice effective social distancing? Check out the "[Neighborhood Trails of Red, White, and Blue](#)"!

This year, in place of the annual Festival of the Fourth Celebration, the City of Knoxville has planned a fun socially distanced, neighborhood-centric event! From July 3 to 5, ten

neighborhoods across Knoxville will decorate their homes, balconies, entrance gates, porches, mailboxes, and more!

The following neighborhoods will be decorated and eager to show off their Fourth of July cheer for all to see:

Southside Waterfront Neighborhood Association: W. Blount Ave., both 303 Flats and City View complexes

RiverHill Gateway Neighborhood Association: E. Hill Ave. & Hall of Fame Dr.

Historic Fourth and Gill Neighborhood Organization: Gratz St., Glenwood Ave., Luttrell St., and Eleanor St.

Old North Knoxville, Inc: Start on Central St., right on Oklahoma Ave., right on Glenwood Ave., left on Fremont Pl., left on Kenyon St., left on Scott Ave., and back to Central St.

Northwest Hills Neighborhood Watch: Located at Kingsmore Dr. and Kinlock Ln.

We Care Neighborhood Watch: Located at Katey Spring Way, Tera Spring Way, & Morgan Spring Way

Historic Gibbs Drive Neighborhood Association: Both 2800 and 3100 blocks Gibbs Dr.

Robinson Ridge: Tori Rd.

Sherrill Hills Retirement Resort: 271 Moss Grove Blvd.

Vestal Community Organization: Hosting a Neighborhood-wide clean-up at Goose Creek between Ogle Ave. and W. Blount Ave., debris removal in Vestal UMC Cemetery, and reseeding of the wildflower meadow in Vestal Gateway Park

Visit the [Neighborhood Trails](#) website to see street maps of each participating neighborhood. Streets will also be marked with a red arrow, July 3-5. Neighbors are encouraged to walk, bike, and drive through participating areas to see the decorations and take part in the spirit. On July 4, from 1-4 p.m., a caravan parade with judges will drive through, spreading more July 4 spirit and judging which neighborhood is the best decorated.

Dress up, check out the participating neighborhood near you, venture through the entire "red" trail, and be on the lookout for the caravan parade! It will be a fun day for all!

3. City Offices Closed for Fourth of July Holiday

City of Knoxville offices will be closed Friday, July 3, in observance of the Fourth of July holiday.

Waste Connections will continue to run its normal residential garbage and recycling routes on Friday, July 3. Downtown trash and recyclables will also be collected on a regular schedule during the Fourth of July holiday weekend.

As a reminder, Thanksgiving and Christmas are the only days of the year when residential curbside trash and recycling are not picked up as scheduled.

The City's five recycling drop-off centers will also be open on Saturday, July 4, but the Goodwill attendant will not be available to receive donations of household goods. The City's Solid Waste Facility, 1033 Elm St., will be closed on Friday, July 3 and Saturday, July 4.

As a general reminder, the Solid Waste Facility is currently only accepting debit and credit cards due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. No cash will be accepted.

To learn more about the City's garbage and recycling schedule, how COVID-19 is affecting drop-off locations, and more, visit the Waste and Resource Management [webpage](#) or call 3-1-1.

4. Register to Vote by July 7 for Aug. Election

The final day to register to vote before the Aug. 6 election is July 7. To register: You can use [online voter registration](#) or download a Tennessee voter registration application and submit the application to your local county election commission.

You can also pick up voter registration applications in person at the following locations: County Election Commission Offices, County Clerk's Offices, Public Libraries, or Register of Deeds Offices. It is also possible to register during a transaction with one of the following: Department of Health (WIC program), Department of Human Services, Department of Intellectual Developmental Disabilities, Department of Mental Health, Department of Safety (motor vehicles division), or the Department of Veteran's Affairs.

To participate in an election, a [qualified voter](#) must register 30 days before the election. The election commission will process any voter registration form that has been postmarked or submitted at least 30 days before the election, or on July 7.

Pursuant to the June 4, 2020 Order of the Davidson County Chancery Court, if you are a registered voter and do not wish to vote in-person due to COVID-19, you are eligible to [request an absentee ballot](#) by mail. Voting in-person during early voting or on Election Day at your designated voting location are options, as well.

For more information about voting in Tennessee, visit GoVoteTN.com

Make sure your voice is heard! Go vote!

5. One Last Mandatory Grant Workshop Opportunity

The last of three mandatory grant workshops for the [Neighborhood Small Grants Project](#) (NSGP) will be held, Wednesday, July 8, at 6 p.m.

If your neighborhood is interested in applying for a 2021 grant, and you have not sent a participant to a previous workshop this summer, make sure to send a representative to the July 8 workshop!

To register for the workshop please contact Eden Slater at eslater@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-2113. To encourage effective social distancing, numbers are limited; all attendees must register and will learn the location upon registration.

We request that all participants wear a mask and bring your own pen; we are doing our best to ensure everyone's safety.

The Grant Workshops are designed to explain the NSGP process, walk through how to apply, and discuss successful grant applications. The NSGP offers neighborhood grants of \$500 up to \$3,000, or up to \$4,500 if your neighborhood partners with another neighborhood organization or non-profit, for projects that engage and encourage neighborhood togetherness and community. To apply for the NSGP, all applicants must be resident-led, resident-controlled, democratically run neighborhood organizations and attend one of the mandatory grant workshops.

Even if you are unsure your neighborhood will submit an application this year, consider attending, learning about the process, and finding ways to fund projects in your neighborhood.

6. Mayor Kincannon Offers Facebook Live Q&A

Do you have questions for the Mayor? She wants to hear them!

Mayor Indya Kincannon has been hosting regular question-and-answer sessions on her Facebook page, every Thursday around 3 p.m. Neighbors can submit questions by email, to be answered during the Mayor's Facebook Live sessions. Topics have ranged from Knoxville's COVID-19 response to KPD policies. These Q&A's typically last about 20 minutes.

To find out when the next Q&A session will be and to tune in, follow Mayor Kincannon on [Facebook](#).

To submit questions for the next Q&A, email kfarley@knoxvilletn.gov.

7. LaKenya Middlebrook Appointed as PARC Director

Mayor Indya Kincannon has appointed LaKenya R. Middlebrook, a respected community leader and an attorney, to serve as Executive Director of the City's [Police Advisory & Review Committee](#) (PARC).

"LaKenya has a long legacy of service to our community," quoted the Mayor Kincannon in a city press release, "Her life experiences, her work as an attorney and community champion, and her service on PARC make her uniquely qualified to lead this important organization. I am confident that she is the right person to help Knoxville

as we navigate difficult discussions and continue to redefine how we look at public safety.”

PARC, created in 1998, is comprised of seven volunteers and served by a full-time executive director. It provides an independent review of police activity and makes recommendations to the Chief of Police.

In the press release announcing Middlebrook's appointment, Mayor Kincannon praised Ola Blackmon-McBride for her service as Interim Executive Director, as well as all who applied for the PARC directorship, saying, “I am grateful and impressed that so many individuals with strong records of community service view the work of PARC as crucial and are committed to strengthening its independent review and oversight.”

Middlebrook earned her bachelor’s degree in history from the University of Kentucky in 2002 and her law degree from the University of Tennessee in 2006. She has worked in private practice as an attorney from 2008 to 2010 and from 2012 to the present. In-between, she served as director of the YWCA Phyllis Wheatley Center. She serves on the Knox County Foster Care Review Board, on the board of Girl Talk, and as co-chair of the local NAACP’s Housing Committee.

The Office of Neighborhoods was moved under [Community Empowerment](#) Department with PARC in December 2019. Middlebrook will be joining the Community Empowerment team of six; Charles Lomax, Tatia Harris, Debbie Sharp, Eden Slater, Ola Blackmon-McBride, and Bailey Walker.

8. Trees Knoxville Offers Virtual Volunteer Forester Class

Have an interest in forestry? Enjoy trees, plants, and the outdoors? Check out the Trees Knoxville Volunteer Forester Class!

Held virtually this July, the five-week course combines online learning with hands-on experience. Volunteer Foresters are taught proper tree planting, mulching, and are asked to share their experience at Trees Knoxville tree planting events throughout the year.

All participants will receive a certificate at the end of the course, and all those who volunteer for one Trees Knoxville event will get their Trees Knoxville Green Forester shirt!

For more information and to register, visit the [Volunteer Forester Trainings](#) webpage.

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 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](#)
- [Parks and Rec Community Programming](#)

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: 12 p.m. Fridays.*

*** 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.*