

## Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 13, No. 38 – Tuesday, October 20, 2020

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Newsletter (PDF version): <http://bit.ly/NeighborhoodAdvisory-2020-10-20>

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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. CAC Offers Resources and Utility Assistance**

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee (CAC) is distributing funds and resources:

#### Utility Assistance

If COVID-19 financial constraints have affected your ability to pay for utilities, call the Knox CAC neighborhood center nearest to you today! Anyone who is unable to pay for utilities because of COVID-19, regardless of income, is eligible to apply.

#### **The deadline to apply is Nov. 10**

Call the CAC West Neighborhood Center at 524-3345 or the East Neighborhood Center at 546-5125 for assistance, as soon as possible.

#### CAC Open House

CAC is a very important community resource, offering over 30 programs to help our neighbors weather all types of hardships.

On Wednesday, Oct. 21, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., drive through the CAC parking lot at the L.T. Ross Building, 2247 Western Ave. for a CAC Open House. Learn about CAC's programs, how they can help you and those in your community, and receive giveaway bags filled with information, light bulbs, masks and more.

The open house is free and open to the public, but CAC does ask that patrons please remain in your car, wear a mask, and maintain six feet of physical distance from others at all times.

For more information on CAC programs, the open house, or utility assistance, call 546-3500 or visit [CAC's website](#).

## **2. ONE Plans Zoom 101 Workshop**

If you want to plan or attend virtual meetings via Zoom but aren't sure how, the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment (ONE) has designed a virtual workshop for you. This workshop is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 9, at 6 p.m.

This workshop will explain how to schedule a Zoom meeting both on the website and through the computer application. Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with all the features that are included in the free version of Zoom.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Katie Catron at [kcatron@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:kcatron@knoxvilletn.gov) or 215-3232.

## **3. Halloween is Just Around the Corner!**

Do you have your costume picked out? Are you ready to find your favorite candy or spooky treat? Halloween will look a little different this year, but it can still be fun.

The City does not recommend any activity that will bring a crowd. However, there are many fun ways to stay safe this spooky season and still enjoy Halloween fun! Check out these low- and moderate-risk fun activities for the whole family:

Lower risk activities: These options involve little to no contact.

- Carving and decorating pumpkins! Keep the activity to just your household, then display them for all to see, or carve pumpkins outside, at a safe distance, with neighbors or friends.
- Decorating your house, apartment, or living space.
- Plan a Halloween-themed scavenger hunt. Pick out the best decorations and make a list for your family to walk the neighborhood and find the items. In inclement weather, you can also plan a scavenger hunt within your own home.
- Host a virtual Halloween costume contest.
- Have a Halloween movie night with your household
- Project a movie on the side of a building and host a drive-in movie night.
- Visit a drive-in haunted house!

Moderate risk activities: These activities involve some slight but distanced contact.

- Go one-way trick-or-treating, and line up individually wrapped goodie bags for children to grab and go while continuing to physical distance. Place bags at the end of the driveway, yard, or even on the porch steps. Make sure to wash your

hands with soap and water for at least 20 second before and after preparing the bags, wear gloves, and a mask.

- Recommend that adults supervise their children, of all ages, to ensure that distancing preferences are followed.
- Carry hand sanitizer to use after receiving candy from each house.
- Wait to eat your candy until after you are done trick-or-treating and make certain kids wash their hands as soon as they get home.
- Wipe down candy or let it sit for a few days.
- Utilize a six-foot-long PVC pipe to make a candy chute.
- Host a small group, outdoor, open-air costume parade where people can show off their costumes and stay six feet apart.
- Attend an outdoor costume party where people wear protective masks and maintain social distancing.
- Have a cloth mask decorating contest! While not all Halloween masks serve as protective masks, why not make your cloth mask part of your costume? Be creative and make it fun!
- Visit a haunted forest or corn maze where directions, appropriate masks, and physical distancing are enforced. Keep in mind, greater distancing is advised in situations where screaming is a likely occurrence. The greater the distance, the lower the risk of spreading a respiratory virus.
- Check out a pumpkin patch or orchard where people use hand sanitizer before touching pumpkins or picking apples, mask wearing is encouraged or enforced, and people are able to maintain physical distancing.

Be sure to follow the CDC's COVID-19 guidelines when planning or attending any gatherings or cookouts.

Please note: if you have COVID-19 or think you may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should not participate in any in-person Halloween festivities or give out candy to trick-or-treaters.

Before planning your Halloween festivities, please keep in mind the rate of infection in Knox County on Oct. 31 and the health risks for your household members.

As always, make sure you follow the five core actions and wear a mask – preferably a scary one! Make this year's Halloween both fun and safe.

#### **4. What are Capital Improvement Projects?**

Have you ever wondered what Capital Improvement Projects are?

Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) are those that result in permanent additions to the City's assets through the acquisition of property, new construction, or rehabilitation of an existing facility to a like-new condition.

These can be one-time projects or those that happen in phases. Completed CIPs include the Cumberland Avenue Streetscape, the North Central Street Streetscape, and the Western Avenue road improvement project.

Currently, there are many Capital Improvement Projects in the works; you can learn more about them and monitor their progress here on the City's [website](#).

## **5. Where Can I Early Vote?**

What is all the rage this year? Voting! To help maintain physical distancing and avoid long lines on Election Day (Nov. 3), consider early voting this year.

Early voting runs now through Thursday, Oct. 29. Check out the list of early voting locations, below, and find a place and time that works best for you:

- **Downtown West**, 1645 Downtown West Blvd., Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m.- 5 p.m. Extended hours run from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. on Oct. 26, 27, 28 and 29
- **Halls Recreation Center**, 6933 Recreation Ln., Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Extended hours run from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. on Oct. 26, 27, 28 and 29.
- **Farragut Town Hall**, 11408 Municipal Center Dr., Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m-5 p.m. Extended hours run from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. on Oct. 26, 27, 28 and 29.
- **Carter Senior Center**, 9040 Asheville Hwy., Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m-5 p.m. Extended hours run from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. on Oct. 26, 27, 28 and 29.
- **Love Kitchen**, 2418 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., Monday- Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m-5:00 p.m. Extended hours run from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. on Oct. 26, 27, 28 and 29.
- **New Harvest Park**, 4775 New Harvest Ln., Monday- Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m-5:00 p.m. Extended hours run from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. on Oct. 26, 27, 28 and 29.
- **Knoxville Expo Center (North)**, 5441 Clinton Hwy., Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m-5 p.m. Extended hours run from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. on Oct. 26, 27, 28 and 29.
- **Karns Senior Center**, 8042 Oak Ridge Hwy., Monday- Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
- **City-County Building, Small Assembly Room**, 400 Main St., Monday- Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 17, 8 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; and Saturday, Oct. 24, 11 a.m.- 5 p.m. Extended hours run from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. on Oct. 26, 27, 28 and 29.
- **Meridian Baptist Church (South)**, 6513 Chapman Hwy., Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Saturday 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Extended hours run from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. on Oct. 26, 27, and 29.
- **Howard H. Baker Jr. Center (UT Campus)**, 1640 Cumberland Ave., 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Oct. 26-29

For more information on early voting and voting locations, visit [Go Vote Knoxville!](#) Get out and vote!

## **6. Beer Board – What Is It?**

Did you know that City Council has a [Beer Board](#)? This Board establishes policy and procedures regarding permits to sell beer and enforces City Codes by means of

inspectors. Any establishment wanting to sell beer must fill out an application and appear before the Beer Board, which considers each request for a permit.

A chairperson is elected from among the members of the Board. The current Chairman is Councilman Andrew Roberto. This board meets at 5 p.m. before the second City Council meeting each month, and their next meeting is tonight, Oct. 20.

## **7. UT Seeks Input on Community Composting**

Dr. Chad Hellwinckel, with the University of Tennessee, seeks input for a survey researching whether community composting would work in Knoxville.

Community composting sites are popping up in neighborhoods around the country (Philadelphia, DC, Nashville), where neighbors can collect their food scraps and have them composted at small managed locations near neighborhoods. A benefit is that neighbors get great compost back to use in their home gardens.

Your input will be valuable for this research project, please take a moment to fill out the survey and share your perspective.

To take the 5-10 minute survey, click the [link](#) or call 541-321-3691.

## **8. Applications Open for 2021 Cities United Young Leader Fellowship**

The application for the 2021 Cities United Young Leader Fellowship is open now until Nov. 20. There will also be information sessions held on Oct. 22 ([register here](#)), and Nov.10 ([register here](#)), both at 5:30 p.m.

This fellowship is designed to develop leaders committed to making sure all children grow up in a safe and healthy community, while reducing the homicide and shooting rates of black men and boys. These Young Leaders will engage with local leaders, mentors, and national experts to deepen their knowledge and skills while also learning about Cities United's violence-prevention strategies, personal and professional leadership, policy and advocacy, and capacity building.

This is a six-month fellowship open to black men and women between the ages of 18-24 years old who are interested in violence prevention and working on behalf of black men and boys.

After graduating the Fellowship, participants will receive a \$1,500 completion stipend and be paired with a professional mentor.

Click [here](#) for more information about this fellowship and to access the application.

## **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](mailto:scook@knoxvilletn.gov) or 215-2034 no less than 72 hours before the meeting you wish

to attend. For an 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.*