

Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 13, No. 41 – Tuesday, November 10, 2020

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Newsletter (PDF version): <http://bit.ly/NeighborhoodAdvisory-2020-11-10>

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Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhood Empowerment, 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. City Council Hosts Workshop

Knoxville City Council will hold a workshop at 4 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 12, via Zoom video/audio conference. The following topics will be on the agenda: a review of TIFs (Tax Increment Financing) and PILOTs (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) for developments. The Knoxville Chamber will also provide an update on its five-year strategic vision and its fiscal year 2021 business plan.

Persons wishing to speak at the workshop must register with the City Recorder's Office either by telephone or email before 3 p.m. on Nov. 12, at 215-2075 or wjohnson@knoxvilletn.gov. The City's Recorder's Office will ask for contact information in order to connect speakers to the Zoom meeting. Participation is possible either through the Zoom application or by phoning in to the meeting.

Watch the City Council Workshop live or on demand at CTVKnox.org.

2. We Want Your Feedback!

The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment's intern from the University of Tennessee, Hayley Howard, would like to hear your feedback about this weekly newsletter. Be thinking of suggestions you would like to make. She has created an anonymous survey that takes about 5-10 minutes. Any and all feedback is greatly appreciated. Be on the lookout in next week's newsletter.

3. Neighborhood Holiday Trails Registration Due Nov. 13

Looking for a fun way to celebrate with your neighbors this winter holiday season? Register your neighborhood to participate in Knoxville's Neighborhood Holiday Trails, beginning the week of Nov. 30, and continuing through New Year's Day.

The trails are a safe and creative way to show off holiday spirit and have fun with your neighbors without increasing the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus.

Neighborhoods are encouraged to decorate their homes, porches, lawns, mailboxes, and driveways with a holiday theme. City staff will create a map of participating neighborhoods that will be posted online and shared for neighbors across the city to drive through the Holiday Trails and see all the beautiful lights and decorations!

Participating neighbors are also asked to identify stand out items to list for a scavenger hunt! If you have a neighbor with a giant blow-up snowman, a decorated park gazebo, a Rudolf on the roof, or the like, make sure to add those details in your registration. As neighbors and children drive, run, walk, and bike through your neighborhood, they can look for these fun items and mark them off their list.

If your neighborhood plans to decorate this winter holiday season, contact Eden Slater at eslater@knoxvilletn.gov, before Friday, Nov. 13, and get your street on the map. List a couple main streets or areas to highlight, and make sure to mention any special items to list for the scavenger hunt.

So far, two Knoxville city neighborhoods are registered: **Historic Holston Hills Community Club** and the **Northwest Hills Neighborhood Watch**. Join the fun and register your neighborhood today!

For more on "Knoxville's Neighborhood Holiday Trails," and other Christmas in the City celebrations, check out the [Special Events](#) page.

4. CAC Requests You Apply for CARES Act Money by Nov. 30

The Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee (CAC) is asking applicants for its COVID-19 energy assistance funds to get their applications in by Monday, Nov. 30, to allow time for application processing before the deadline of Dec. 4.

If any member of your household has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in one of the following ways, you may qualify for energy assistance funds:

- Job loss, work-hour reduction, or loss of wages due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Missed work to care for a child as a result of school closure, COVID-19 related illness, or online learning
- Missed work to care for an adult family member or relative with a COVID-19 diagnosis
- COVID-19-related out of pocket expenses
- Inability to find employment due to the pandemic
- Other COVID-19 related circumstances

Funds are not income based, and all who have suffered loss of income due to COVID-19 are encouraged to apply.

CARES Act Utility Assistance funding can be used to help pay for the cost of electric, natural gas, propane, wood, kerosene, or coal.

To apply, follow the [link](#) for a downloadable application. Send a completed application, a copy of your driver's license or photo ID, a copy of your most recent utility bill, and documentation of the COVID-19-related income loss to CAC using one of the following methods:

E-mail: CARES.intake@knoxcac.org

Mail: Knox CAC West Neighborhood Center, P.O. Box 51650
Knoxville, TN 37950

Drop Off: CARES drop box, L.T. Ross Building main entrance 2247 Western Ave.
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:45 p.m.

For more information, assistance, or additional resources, please call your nearest CAC Neighborhood Center:

- West/Central/North: 524-3345
- East/South: 546-5125

For more assistance, including rental, mortgage, and other housing assistance, please call 2-1-1.

5. Did You Know Knoxville Has a Climate Council?

In September 2019, Knoxville City Council unanimously adopted two goals to combat climate change in Knoxville:

- A 50 percent reduction in greenhouse gases by 2030 for municipal operations
- An 80 percent reduction in greenhouse gases by 2050 for the entire community.

The Mayor's Climate Council, housed under the Office of Sustainability, is working to ensure that these goals are met. Their next meeting is today, Nov. 10, at 1:30 p.m.

Reducing Knoxville's carbon footprint is crucial to combating climate change, improving our ability to bounce back from disasters, protecting our health, and smartly utilizing taxpayer dollars.

Making Knoxville a leader in fighting climate change requires collaboration. To identify and evaluate strategies to achieve the 80 percent by 2050 community goal, Mayor Indya Kincannon has invited cross-sector leadership to take part in the Mayor's Climate Council. This group will include conservation advocates, clean-energy experts, advocates for equity, neighborhood representatives, developers and business leaders, and representatives from KUB and TVA. Collectively, they will work to find smart

solutions to promote sustainable redevelopment of our city while protecting green spaces and reducing our carbon emissions.

Whether you swim at Meads Quarry, hike Sharps Ridge, jog Third Creek Greenway or stroll the paved paths at Holston River Park, making Knoxville cleaner and greener makes us healthier, and catalyzes private investment, with corresponding growth in business and jobs.

There are four working groups comprised of dozens of community leaders and technical experts that provide ongoing guidance on the Council's priorities. These groups are: Equity, Transportation, Energy/Building Technology, and Waste Technology.

To learn more about the Mayor's Climate Council and to see their timeline, visit their [website](#).

6. Planning Meets this Thursday

The Knoxville-Knox County Planning Commission will meet Thursday, Nov. 12, at 1:30 p.m. The meeting can be viewed live on [CTV](#) or [YouTube](#).

On this week's agenda, Planning will discuss 56 agenda items. To view the full agenda, visit the [website](#). To tell whether a property is in the city or county, read the description: City properties are listed as "Council Districts," and county properties are listed as "Commission Districts."

To see agenda items in your area, check out the [Planning Case Map](#). If you would like to submit comments or request to speak at this week's Planning Commission meeting, follow this [link](#).

The Planning Commission hears cases on zoning changes, construction permits, road closures, and more. To learn about new developments and construction in your area, visit the Planning Commission each month and tune into their monthly meetings, every second Thursday of the month.

7. Planning Introduces New Forms

There are several new Planning forms available to make it easier for community members to reach Knoxville-Knox County Planning staff, submit comments on cases, and sign up to speak at Planning commission meetings!

Previously, individuals could request to speak at a meeting by calling or emailing Commissioners or staff. Due to the frequency and volume of emails received each month, an online form was created to provide an additional way to sign up to speak and make the process easier.

- To sign up to speak at the next planning meeting, click [here](#).
- To contact staff with any questions or concerns, click [here](#).
- Or, to submit comments about a specific case, click [here](#).

This process streamlines communication with Planning Commissioners and staff.

8. PARC Holds Workshop And Quarterly Meeting

The Police Advisory Review Committee (PARC) will hold a workshop to discuss the Progressive Action Committee's recommendations on Police Reform on Wednesday, Nov. 11, at 6 p.m., at the Public Works Building, 3131 Morris Ave.

PARC will have their 3rd Quarter Review meeting on Wednesday, November 18, at 6 p.m., at the Public Works Building.

Attendees at either meeting will be asked to wear masks and observe physical distancing standards.

To learn more about PARC, view the meeting agenda, and see past reports, visit the [PARC website](#).

9. Savings in the House Workshops Offered

This Wednesday, Nov. 11 through Friday, Nov. 13, local experts from the Alliance to Save Energy (ASE) and Socially Equal Energy Efficient Development (SEED) are hosting "Savings in the House," a series of virtual workshops on energy and water efficiency, healthy homes, DIY home improvements, and more!

This free event is open to the public, so everyone—renters, homeowners, landlords, students, families, and more—is welcome.

Workshops include:

Healthy Homes: Wednesday, Nov. 11, 7-8 p.m. The workshop will discuss how your home, energy use, and health overlap, especially during a pandemic. This workshop will explain how your home impacts your energy use and health, and teach renters and homeowners how to make your home healthier. Participants can "ask the expert" during an open Q&A session to learn more! Click [here](#) to register.

Energy & Water Savings: Thursday, Nov. 12, 2-3 p.m. Learn how to decrease your energy and water use and lower your utility bills at home, with a demonstration of helpful and not-so-helpful behaviors. Follow the [link](#) to register.

Savings in the House Workshop: Friday, Nov. 13, 2-2:45 p.m. This workshop will share low and no-cost ways for renters and homeowners to save energy at home. Participants in this workshops can also "ask the expert" during an open Q&A session to learn more about resources and DIY solutions! Register by clicking [here](#).

DIY Savings: Friday, Nov. 13, 6-7 p.m. This workshop will feature materials and recommendations from KUB on low and no-cost ways to reduce energy and water use at home. Click [here](#) to register.

Saving Energy while Working & Schooling from Home: See times and dates below. Students and families have been spending more time at home during the pandemic, which means using more energy for lights, computers, cooking, and more. This workshop and audience Q&A will demonstrate how to save energy and reduce utility

bills at home. Participating students will be entered into a raffle to meet a goat named Tom Hanks at the farm!

These workshops will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 11, 3-3:45 p.m. (register [here](#)), Thursday, Nov. 12, 1-1:45 p.m. (register [here](#)), or Friday, Nov. 13, 4-4:45 p.m. (register [here](#)).

If you have questions about any of these workshops, contact Grace Levin with the City of Knoxville at glevin@knoxvilletn.gov.

10. 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 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.*