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Newsletter (PDF version <https://bit.ly/NeighborhoodAdvisory-2020-12-15>)

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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. No Newsletter for Two Weeks**

The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment will not produce a newsletter for the next two weeks as we navigate holiday schedules for our team members.

We hope you have a fantastic holiday season and a Happy New Year! We will be back online with a new edition of the newsletter on Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021.

### **2. Parkridge Challenges Neighborhood Groups to Donate Meals**

Neighborhood Advisory Council member, Morgan Wilson, wanted to find a way that she and her Parkridge neighbors could help Knoxville residents facing hunger during the pandemic.

Wilson looked into organizations feeding people in Knoxville and chose Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee as the recipient of the neighbors' donations. Second Harvest's website allows users to set up challenges and goals to engage in friendly competitions for fundraising and providing meals to people in need. Wilson not only encouraged **Parkridge Community Organization's** neighbors to participate but turned it into a friendly competition for other neighborhood groups to participate in this virtual food drive.

As a result, 10 neighborhoods are participating in the food drive, and more than 41,000 meals have been raised for Second Harvest to distribute.

It's not too late to join the challenge! The deadline to participate in this food drive is Friday, Dec. 25. Visit Second Harvest's [website](#) and join the Neighborhood Virtual Food Drive today.

### **3. The Neighborhood Holiday Trails Scavenger Hunt Is Here!**

In addition to the [Neighborhood Holiday Trails](#), the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment and the Special Events Department bring you a scavenger hunt of all the major attractions in each neighborhood!

You can try to find all the items across the city, or focus on just one neighborhood if you are limited on time. Check out the holiday cheer each neighborhood has to offer!

The scavenger hunt can be found with the Neighborhood Holiday Trails [here](#).

### **4. Solid Waste Shares Tips on Keeping Your Holiday Low Waste**

Still working on your Holiday Shopping? Solid Waste has some tips to complete those holiday orders in a cost effective and sustainable way:

- Ordering online? Did you know that Amazon offers low-waste packaging options? Make sure you select the low-waste choice for less packaging that is typically recyclable, as well. Better yet! Check out the [Package Free Shop](#) or [EarthHero](#) for great earth-friendly Amazon alternatives.
- Looking for gifts of clothing, shoes, and accessories? [ThreadUP](#) is the world's largest online thrift store, and a great affordable alternative for creative and hip clothing items! [Etsy](#), too, is a great place to get unique, custom, artisan gifts and simultaneously support small businesses across the world.
- Looking to shop local? Especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, supporting local businesses is always a great way to boost the local community. Check out stores like [Rala](#) for goods made by local artisans, [Stanley's Greenhouse](#) for plants and greenery, [Magpies](#) for sweet treats, and many more! Check out [Visit Knoxville](#) for local stores that might have what you're looking for.
- Still want to shop local, but avoiding in-person interactions? Check out the [Maker's City Holiday Gift Guide](#) for more local inspiration.

For more tips on sustainable holiday shopping, as well as, a guide to green decorating, post-holiday recycling, and lowering holiday-food waste, visit the [Waste Not Blog](#).

### **5. ONE Wishes You Happy Holidays!**

Happy Holidays! The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment (ONE) would like to wish you and your family a happy, safe, cheerful, and uplifting holiday!

Although this holiday season may look a little different than it has in years past, we hope you are able to spend quality time with those you love, reflect on the positive things, and enjoy some down time this holiday season.

If 2020 has shown us anything, it's how much we have to be grateful for. This year especially, communities have come together to support and uplift each other. Getting to see the different ways neighborhoods across Knoxville have banded together to take care of one another makes us proud to be members of such a vibrant, compassionate community. Thank you for all you do; we are grateful to be a part of your Knoxville family.

If you are looking for fun ways to celebrate this holiday season, be sure to check out the [Neighborhood Holiday Trails](#) and see 14 of Knoxville's neighborhoods lit up this holiday season. For even more holiday cheer, check out [Christmas in the City](#) for details on the Peppermint Trail, Elf on the Shelf Scavenger Hunt, and Holidays on Ice, which is being held this year at the Knoxville Civic Coliseum.

Have a safe and Happy Holiday, from all of us at ONE: Debbie, Eden, Courtney, Katie, and Hayley!

## **6. City Council to Hear New NAC Appointments**

Tonight on City Council's agenda, council members will hear the new appointments for the [Neighborhood Advisory Council](#) (NAC). Four are new members, and one is a re-appointment.

District 2-B – Alanna McKissack of **Westwood Homeowners Association**  
District 4-B – Brent Waugh of **Historic Fourth and Gill Neighborhood Organization**  
District 5-A – Philip Higgs of **Norwood Community Association**  
District 6-A – Breauna Holloway of **Mechanicsville Community Association**  
At Large Seat C – Emma Ellis-Cosigua of **Inskip Community Association** (re-appointed)

If the City Council approves this group, their terms will start in January 2021 and run for three years. The first meeting of NAC in 2021 will be Wednesday, Jan. 13, from 4:30-6 p.m., via Zoom.

If you have any questions about NAC, please contact Debbie Sharp at 215-4382 or by email at [dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov).

## **7. HZC and BZA Meet This Week**

The [Historic Zoning Commission](#) will meet on Thursday, Dec. 17, at 8:30 a.m., via Zoom. Certificates of Appropriateness will be awarded to: 2057 Emoriland Blvd and 610 Caswell Ave.

You can contact Lindsay Crockett at 865-215-3795 or [historiczoning@knoxplanning.org](mailto:historiczoning@knoxplanning.org) for questions about attending or speaking at this meeting.

The [Board of Zoning Appeals](#) (BZA) meeting will be this Thursday, Dec. 17, at 4 p.m., via Zoom. If you wish to watch this meeting or speak on an agenda item, you can register [here](#).

BZA will consider the following petitions for variance of requirements: 4281 Middlebrook Farm Ln.; 4605 Central Ave. Pike; 1740 Texas Ave.; 1200 Forrest Brook Rd.; 1243 Iredell Ave.; 611 E. Depot Ave.; 2308 E. Fifth Ave.; 1650 Huron St. / 1617 Saint Mary St.; 227 E. Oklahoma Ave.; 1109 White Ave.; 2600 2620 Middlebrook Pike; 1802 Boyd St.; 405 West Oldham Ave.; and 2203 Sevier Ave.

The next HZC and BZA meetings will be on Thursday, Jan. 21.

If you need assistance or accommodation for a disability, please contact the City ADA coordinator at 215-2034.

## **8. City Announces Holiday Schedule**

City of Knoxville offices will be closed Thursday, Dec. 24, Friday, Dec. 25, and Friday, Jan. 1.

There will be no household garbage or recycling collection on Friday, Dec. 25, and Waste Connections' office will be closed. Friday routes will be picked up on Saturday, Dec. 26. Downtown commercial and residential collections will also resume on Saturday.

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

While Waste Connections will pick up garbage and recycling on Friday, Jan. 1, their office will be closed and telephones will not be answered.

Properly bagged excess holiday household trash and broken-down cardboard set next to full garbage carts will be picked up. Please remember to have garbage and recycling containers out for pickup before 7 a.m. on your normal pickup day.

For tips on how to prevent waste by recycling or donating gently used items during this giving season, please visit the City's [recycling guide](#).

The City's five recycling centers will be open, but the Goodwill attendant will only be available for household goods donations for a half-day on Thursday, Dec. 24. The center will be unstaffed but open for recycling drop-off on Friday, Dec. 25 and Friday, Jan. 1.

The City's Solid Waste Facility, located at 1033 Elm Street, will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 24 through Saturday, Dec. 26, with normal hours resuming on Monday, Dec. 27. For the New Year's holiday, the Facility will be closed on Friday, Jan. 1 and Saturday, Jan. 2, with normal hours resuming Monday, Jan. 4.

Due to the holidays, "Free for City Residents Day" at the Solid Waste Facility will be held on Saturday, Jan. 9, the second Saturday of the month. This service is for City of Knoxville residents only—please no contractors and no shingles.

## **9. Mobile Meals Seeks Holiday Volunteers**

Are you looking for a way to give back this holiday season? Consider volunteering for Mobile Meals!

The Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee's Mobile Meals Program is in need of volunteers to deliver meals to homebound seniors. Mobile Meals provides a hot meal and a wellness check to more than a thousand seniors age 60+, five days a week. With COVID-19 keeping more seniors at home, Mobile Meals has been serving more than 100 extra meals each day since this spring. However, the pandemic has also reduced the number of volunteers signing up to deliver.

Volunteers deliver meals between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. It's a safe way to help seniors in need and still maintain a safe distance. For more information and to volunteer, visit the Mobile Meals website, call 524-2786, or email [mobilemealsvols@knoxseniors.org](mailto:mobilemealsvols@knoxseniors.org).

## **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](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.*