



The Neighborly Notice – Vol. 15, No. 39 – Tuesday, October 25, 2022

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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. Head Start Facility at Western Heights Officially Opens

The newest location of Knoxville Head Start officially opened in Western Heights on Tuesday, Oct. 18. Knoxville's Community Development Corporation (KCDC), Knox County Community Action Committee (CAC), business and community leaders,

residents and local stakeholders were in attendance. The new center will provide comprehensive preschool programs for more than 130 neighborhood children.

The \$5.4 million Head Start facility, located at the intersection of West Oldham Ave. and McSpadden St., offers Head Start and Early Head Start programming by CAC and will serve children from infant to age 5.

“Head Start allows very young children to get an early jump on education and not have to try to catch up after enrolling in elementary school,” said KCDC Executive Director and CEO Ben Bentley.

“CAC Head Start has a proven record of successfully partnering with families to prepare children to succeed in school and in life. CAC is looking forward to welcoming families to the new center and providing access to critical early childhood development opportunities,” stated CAC Executive Director Barbara Kelly.

The opening of Western Heights Head Start coincides with the [Transforming Western initiative](#), a plan to revitalize the Western Heights neighborhood.

“Early education and access to resources is incredibly important,” Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon said. “I want to thank KCDC and CAC for making this invaluable Head Start amenity a reality, and also, I applaud the business and community partners who are making Transforming Western a success-story model for communities across the nation to emulate. I want to especially acknowledge the residents who live in this neighborhood for their engagement and ownership throughout this process.”

2. Neighbor of the Year Nominations Now Open

Do you know someone who goes the extra mile to make his or her neighborhood a better place? Do you know someone who welcomes new neighbors, volunteers to help those in distress or works tirelessly to service your neighborhood organization? Is your neighbor that person who shows up to lend a hand at every neighborhood potluck, community cleanup, or neighborhood meeting?

The Diana Conn Good Neighbor of the Year Award is presented annually to a Knoxville resident who — in a spirit of cooperation and with commitment to inclusive community — has devoted time and talent in service to his or her neighbors and neighborhood. The award is meant to honor someone who makes a positive contribution at the neighborhood level without seeking recognition for their service.

Nominations are open and will be accepted through Friday, Nov. 18, at 4:30 p.m. Nominees must live within Knoxville city limits. Previous nominees may be nominated again. More than one nomination may be submitted for a single nominee. The winner will be announced in the newsletter and will be presented at an invitation-only dinner in early March. Nomination forms can be found on the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment [website](#).

3. Safety Series – North is Coming Up!

A series of neighborhood meetings focusing on neighborhood safety and awareness practices will continue in North Knoxville on Thursday, Nov. 17, from 6-8 p.m. at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 5409 Jacksboro Pike.

The Neighborhood Safety and Awareness series is a collaboration between the City of Knoxville Office of Neighborhood Empowerment (ONE), Police Advisory and Review Committee (PARC), the Community Safety Department, Knoxville Police Department (KPD), and the East Tennessee Valley Crime Stoppers initiative.

Residents of City Council Districts 4 and 5 are invited to learn about the types of crime happening in their neighborhoods and best practices for community safety, crime prevention and safety awareness. If you have questions you would like to be answered at the upcoming meeting, please send them to neighborhoods@knoxvilletn.gov.

This will be the final meeting of the series. Meetings focused on East, West, and South Knoxville have already occurred this year.

The City of Knoxville ensures meaningful access to City programs, services, and activities to comply with Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II laws and reasonably provides translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids and services.

To request language translation services, contact Community Empowerment Director Charles F. Lomax Jr at clomax@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-2536.

For disability accommodations, contact City ADA Coordinator, Stephanie Brewer Cook, at scook@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-2034 at least 72 hours before the meeting.

4. BBB for October is Cancelled but POH Meets This Week

The [Better Building Board](#) (BBB) October meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, Dec. 1 at 3:30 p.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building, 400 Main St., and online via Zoom.

Anyone wishing to speak in person or via Zoom for future meetings, should contact Cheri Burke in advance at cmburke@knoxvilletn.gov.

The Public Officer Hearing (POH) will be held on Friday, Oct. 28, at 9:30 a.m., in the Main Assembly Room of the City County Building, 400 Main St., and online via Zoom.

During the New Business/Orders, POH will address the following properties: 4405 Fulton Dr.; 2004 Highland Dr. including accessory structures; 909 Kingland Ave. including accessory structures; 315 Seneca Rd. – retaining wall only; 6704 Stone Mill Dr. including accessory structure; and 2621 Summit Ave. including accessory structures

– confirmation of emergency repair only order. Visit the website to view the [POH agenda](#) and get the Zoom link.

If any of these properties are in your neighborhood, you or someone from your neighborhood organization may wish to speak on the current situation.

Anyone wishing to speak in person or via Zoom, should contact Cheri Burke in advance at cmburke@knoxvilletn.gov.

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To request language translation services, contact Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Dr. Charles F. Lomax, Jr. at clomax@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-2536

For disability accommodations, contact City ADA Coordinator Stephanie Brewer Cook at scook@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-2034 at least 72 hours before the meeting.

5. Traffic Calming Educational Materials are Available to You!

Did you know that the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment (ONE) has traffic calming educational materials available to you on our [website](#)?

You will find ideas and resources for appealing to drivers who speed in your neighborhood and suggestions to alter their behavior and reduce their speed.

[The Education Toolbox](#) is designed as support materials for a neighborhood-led, neighborhood-centric education campaign focused on your own neighbors' driving habits as well as those who regularly drive through your neighborhood. Success will depend on you and your neighbors to create and manage an outreach effort that works for your neighborhood.

For additional questions or more information about the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program (NTSP), please email Hayley Howard at hhoward@knoxvilletn.gov.

6. Big Brothers Big Sisters Hosting College & Career Fair

Big Brothers Big Sisters of East Tennessee is hosting a College & Career Fair on Thursday, Oct. 27, from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. at the Tennessee Amphitheater in World's Fair Park. Exhibitors include representatives from many employers including the Knoxville Utilities Board and the University of Tennessee College of Social Work.

Find more information about this exciting event at <https://tennesseebig.org/event/college-career-fair/>.

7. Knoxville's Early Voting Schedule

It is time to get out and vote, Knoxville! The midterm elections are coming up, with Election Day taking place on Tuesday, Nov. 8. However, if you are busy like us, you may want to take advantage of early voting.

Early voting began on Oct. 19, and will continue until Nov. 3. To vote early, you simply need to be registered to vote in Knox County, and be able to provide a valid form of identification. Currently, accepted forms of identification are driver's licenses, passports, and other government issued IDs.

Any person registered to vote in Knox County may vote at any location listed during the early voting period. The following is a list of early voting locations:

- City County Building, Small Assembly Room, 400 Main St.
- Eternal Life Harvest Center – Five Points, 2410 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.
- Downtown West, 1645 Downtown West Blvd., Unit 40
- New Harvest Park, 4775 New Harvest Ln.
- Meridian Baptist Church (South), 6513 Chapman Hwy.
- Knoxville Expo Center, 5441 Clinton Hwy.
- Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Dr.
- Carter Senior Center, 9036 Asheville Hwy.
- Halls Recreation Center, 6933 Recreation Ln.
- Karns Senior Center, 8042 Oak Ridge Hwy.

Early voting is available Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Early voting is not available on Sundays. For more information, such as a sample ballot, a candidate list, and instructions for using voting tools, visit <https://www.knoxcounty.org/election/>.

8. CAC to Provide Practical Information Related to Aging

Aging: A Family Affair is in its 38th year as a program, and it is once again set to provide Knoxville residents with resources and information related to aging. This program is meant to equip seniors, their loved ones, and medical professionals with the knowledge necessary to navigate one's elder years. CAC will be hosting this program on Thursday, Nov. 10 from 8 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. at the Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike.

This year's Peggy Wirtz Keynote Address speaker is Dr. Javiette Samuel, PhD, Associate Vice Chancellor of Diversity and Engagement at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. Dr. Samuel will speak on the topic of aging and equity.

Registration includes breakfast, lunch and three workshops. This year's workshop topics are:

- Medicare and Social Security Update
- Lions, Tigers, and Covid, Oh My: Mental Health Before, During, and After the Pandemic
- Robots: Supporting Caregivers in the Future
- Updating Your Legal Documents
- Aging Better: Participating in our Digital World
- Caregiving: It Takes a Village
- Medicine and the Meaning of Life
- How to Prevent Alzheimer's and Dementia

Those wishing to register for the program should visit knoxseniors.org or call 865-524-2786. If you register by this Friday, Oct. 28, you will receive a discounted registration fee of \$25. Otherwise, the cost of registration is \$30.

9. Discuss Maternal and Child Health at the Sister Circle Brunch

The Sister Circle Brunch will be held Saturday, Oct. 29, at the Tapestry Event Center, 621 Lamar St., from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide an inviting space for women of color to come together to meet and discuss maternal and child health in Knoxville. OB/GYN Dr. Welch-Charles, Certified Nurse Midwife, Jodie Simms-MacLeod and Certified Doula and Childbirth Educator, Ty Roberts, will be in attendance to help facilitate the discussion.

[Registration](#) is required and brunch will be provided. Children cannot be accommodated during this event.

For more information about the event, please call 865-305-9300 or visit [UT Medical Center's website](#).

10. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar (click link for online calendar)

Call 865-215-3232 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in [this Google calendar](#).

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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 865-215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.*