



**The Neighborly Notice** – Vol. 15, No. 9 – Tuesday, March 8, 2022

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Newsletter (PDF version): <https://bit.ly/NeighborlyNotice-2022-03-08>

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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. Town Hall East Hosts Candidate Forum**

Town Hall East is hosting a candidate forum on Monday, March 14, at 7 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall behind Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 4904 Asheville Highway,

There are many County positions to elect in the upcoming 2022 Primary and General elections. Town Hall East wants to help.

In this forum, you will get to hear from the candidates for Sheriff and County Mayor, have time to ask questions, then mingle and talk afterward.

Town Hall East is welcoming everyone in Knox County! For more information, email [townhalleast@gmail.com](mailto:townhalleast@gmail.com).

## **2. Neighborhood Advisory Council Meets This Week**

The Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) will meet on Wednesday, March 9, at 4:30 p.m. at the Cansler YMCA in the Community Room.

The group will be hearing ways that neighbors can help other neighbors in need. Dottie Lyvers from CAC, Gabe Cline from Volunteer Ministries, plus Shawn Griffith and Russ Jensen from the City of Knoxville will be on the panel.

All are welcome to attend. As a process, NAC members discuss the topic first and if there is time left at the end, comments from the audience may be taken. For more information or if you have questions, contact Debbie Sharp at 215-4382 or [dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov).

The NAC members are appointed by the Mayor to:

- 1) Give advice and feedback on the programs and policies of the Office of Neighborhoods;
- 2) Bring neighborhood issues and concerns to the attention of the Mayor and City Administration;
- 3) Propose to the Administration responses and solutions to address these concerns; and
- 4) Serve as a sounding board for City initiatives and proposals affecting neighborhoods.

The NAC advises and provides input only to the Mayor and the City Administration. As a matter of policy, it does not advise Knoxville City Council, Knoxville Knox County Planning and other elected and appointed bodies; however, they may speak on behalf of their neighborhoods or as individuals.

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 Diversity and Inclusion Officer Tatia M. Harris at [tharris@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:tharris@knoxvilletn.gov) or 865-215-2831. For disability accommodations, contact City ADA Coordinator Stephanie Brewer Cook at [scook@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:scook@knoxvilletn.gov) or 865-215-2034 at least 72 hours before the meeting.

### **3. ONE Needs Your Neighborhood Photos**

Did you get some great pictures at last year's neighborhood holiday party? Would you like to show other neighbors how you nailed the decorations at last year's annual picnic? Did you try a new outdoor event in 2021? Send us your photos!

The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment (ONE) needs pictures of your recent neighborhood activities to include in a slide show to present at the 2022 Neighborhood Conference on Saturday, April 2. If we don't get many photos, we may have to skip the presentation this year, so send them in! Email your photos to our Conference Coordinator Courtney Durrett at [cdurrett@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:cdurrett@knoxvilletn.gov) by Friday, March 18.

We are looking forward to seeing photographic proof all the fun activities neighborhood groups have held this past year!

### **4. Board of Zoning Appeals Meets Next Week**

The Board of Zoning Appeals will meet next Tuesday, March 15, at 4 p.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building.

Properties that will be discussed under New Business are: 1717 White Ave., 808 State St., 5505 Kingston Pike, and 4505 Greenway Dr.

If you live near any of these properties and wish to speak to any of them, check the City's [website](#) for the process.

The next BZA is on Tuesday, April 19, at 4 p.m. in the Circuit Court Division II Court Room.

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### **5. Mandatory Grant Workshops Announced**

The Neighborhood Small Grants Program (NSGP) is designed to strengthen Knoxville neighborhoods by supporting a wide range of community-based initiatives through grants and technical assistance.

Neighborhood groups wishing to apply for a 2023 NSGP must send a representative to one of three upcoming pre-application workshops. If a neighborhood representative absolutely cannot attend any of the three workshops, please call Hayley Howard at 865-215-2113.

Even if your group isn't certain you will apply, go ahead and send someone to a workshop. It could help you learn how to apply in the future, or it could ensure that you have met this requirement to preserve your right to apply in this 2023 round.

The Mandatory pre-application workshops for NSGP are as follows:

- Saturday, April 23, 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the Public Works Building, 3131 Morris Ave.
- Tuesday, April 26, 6-8 p.m. via [Zoom](#)
- Wednesday, May 4, 6-8 p.m. via [Zoom](#)

In order to provide the proper amount of handouts and reserve your spot, please email Hayley Howard at [hhoward@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:hhoward@knoxvilletn.gov) to let her know which workshop you plan to attend.

## **6. Save the Date: Police Advisory & Review Committee Meets**

The City of Knoxville Police Advisory & Review Committee (PARC) will hold its 1st Quarter meeting for 2022 on Thursday, April 28, at 6 p.m. at Emerald Youth Sport Complex, 1740 Texas Ave.

PARC provides an independent review of police misconduct involving Knoxville Police Department officers. PARC members will present information on cases received by the Knoxville Police Department's Internal Affairs Unit for January, February, and March. The agenda also includes committee business and a public forum (limited to five minutes per speaker).

Community members interested in speaking during public forum must contact Marcus Rudolph at [mrudolph@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:mrudolph@knoxvilletn.gov) or 865-215-3966 before 5 p.m. Friday, April 22.

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## **7. UT Medical Center Requests Your Input**

The UT Medical Center is conducting a Community Health Needs survey, and they are asking for your input.

This is your chance to provide important information to hospital leaders to ensure that they are meeting the health care needs of the community.

The medical center provides affordable, accessible, high-quality care, and the survey helps them evaluate our region's health care needs.

Please take a few moments to complete their [survey](#).

## **8. Prepare for Severe Thunderstorms**

Severe thunderstorms are officially defined as storms that are capable of producing hail that is an inch or larger or wind gusts over 58 mph. Hail this size can damage property such as plants, roofs and vehicles. Wind this strong is able to break off large branches, knock over trees or cause structural damage to trees. Some severe thunderstorms can produce hail larger than softballs or winds over 100 mph.

Because of this, it is important to pay attention to the weather so you know when severe storms are possible. Thunderstorms also produce tornadoes and dangerous lightning; heavy rain can cause flash flooding.

Preparation is key to staying safe and minimizing impacts.

- **Be Weather-Ready:** Check the forecast regularly to see if you are at risk for severe weather. Listen to local news or a [NOAA Weather Radio](#) to stay informed about severe thunderstorm watches and warnings. Check the [Weather-Ready Nation](#) for tips.
- **Sign Up for Notifications:** Know how your community sends warning. Some communities have outdoor sirens. Others depend on media and smart phones to alert residents to severe storms.
- **Create a Communications Plan:** Have a family plan that includes an emergency meeting place and related information. Pick a safe room in your home such as a basement, storm cellar or an interior room on the lowest floor with no windows. Get more ideas for a plan at: <https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>
- **Practice Your Plan:** Conduct a family severe thunderstorm drill regularly so everyone knows what to do if a damaging wind or large hail is approaching. Make sure all members of your family know to go there when severe thunderstorm warnings are issued. Don't forget pets if time allows.
- **Prepare Your Home:** Keep trees and branches near your house trimmed. If you have time before severe weather hits, secure loose objects, close windows and doors, and move any valuable objects inside or under a sturdy structure.
- **Help Your Neighbor:** Encourage your loved ones to prepare for severe thunderstorms. Take CPR training so you can help if someone is hurt during severe weather.

- Plan ahead as a neighborhood to create a neighborhood safety plan. This would entail things such as getting block captains to help survey each street to see which neighbors need more assistance and which neighbors can help. Also, you can take an inventory to see who has equipment, like chainsaws, to assist.

For more information about severe thunderstorms, please visit the [National Weather Service's website](#).

### **9. 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.*