



**The Neighborly Notice** – Vol. 16, No. 15 – Tuesday, April 18, 2023

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Newsletter (PDF version): <https://bit.ly/NeighborlyNotice-2023-04-18>

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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. Meet Your Neighbor: Kathy Scruggs**

Have you ever wanted to meet a real-life public health superhero? Here's your chance! Kathy Scruggs, a member of the **West Hills Community Association**, has dedicated her life's work to public health and keeping her community active.

Kathy first moved to Knoxville over 30 years ago, in 1990, after receiving her Master's Degree in Health Promotion and Exercise Science from Vanderbilt University. After receiving her degree, she began to work as a Tennessee Public Health Educator, a job she would continue for 17 years.

"This is me," Kathy says she realized after she began this work. She had found her true calling, and she embraced it. Over the years, Kathy worked with various initiatives, such as Healthy Parks, Healthy Person. She was also influential in the effort to place hydration stations in Knox-area schools and several other child-centric initiatives.

Kathy retired just a few months after she lost her husband, and just a few weeks before the COVID-19 pandemic swept across the world. However, she says her neighbors in West Hills helped to get her through that difficult time.

Kathy became friends with her neighbor Anne Crais, and together they began to bring Healthy Knoxville initiatives to West Hills. Through this endeavor, Kathy and Anne have scheduled lots of programming, including yoga classes and food truck nights.

What is Kathy's wish for Knoxville? That other Knoxville neighborhoods work through the Healthy Knoxville program through the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment (ONE) to bring more programming to their neighborhoods, just as she has done.

Kathy has devoted so much of her time and energy to public service throughout her life. From working to educate community members about their health, to taking care of Knoxville's young people, to organizing everything from mental health programs to bike rides in West Hills, Kathy is truly a superstar. We at ONE are happy to highlight Kathy Scruggs in our very first Meet Your Neighbor Article.

*Meet Your Neighbor articles are new articles that will periodically be released in The Neighborly Notice. We aim to highlight members of our community who truly go above and beyond, and give the rest of Knoxville a chance to get to know them as well. If you or someone you know would like to be featured in our next Meet Your Neighbor article, reach out to Evan Mays at [emays@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:emays@knoxvilletn.gov).*

## **2. Roots in South Knoxville Spring Fling**

All residents are invited to attend the free Roots in South Knoxville Spring Fling on Saturday, April 22, from 12 - 2 p.m. at Dogwood Elementary School, 705 Tipton Ave.

There will be food, games, a craft show, hikes on the nature trail, and more!

There will be booths of all kinds and the food truck Waffly Good. Participating neighborhood organizations are:

- **South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association**
- **South Haven Neighborhood Association**
- **Lindbergh Forest Neighborhood Association**
- **South Knoxville Neighborhood & Business Coalition**

Get outside and have a great time with neighbors!

### **3. Kickball Tournament is Saturday**

It's time! The inaugural Neighborhood Kickball Tournament is this Saturday, April 22 at Caswell Park, 570 Winona St. The first round begins at 9 a.m.

Five teams are participating this year: **Parkridge Community Organization, Timbercrest Neighborhood Association, West Hills Community Association, Westborough Homeowners Association, and Westwood Homeowners Association.** We wish all our teams the very best of luck!

The deadline to register has passed; however, we still encourage anyone who is interested to attend and have some fun with us on Saturday!

### **4. Register for Neighborhood Small Grants Program Workshop NOW!**

Neighborhood groups wishing to apply for the [Neighborhood Small Grants Program](#) (NSGP) for the 2024 grant cycle must send a representative to **one** of the two remaining pre-application workshops.

- Pre-Application Workshop                      6 p.m. Tuesday, April 25, 2023 (In person)
- Pre-Application Workshop                      5 p.m. Wednesday, May 3, 2023 (Zoom)

**NEW for this grant cycle:** The person who attends the workshop **must be** the primary contact for the project.

You must register to attend one of these workshops by contacting Hayley Howard at 865-215-2113 or [hhoward@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:hhoward@knoxvilletn.gov). Also contact Hayley if a neighborhood representative absolutely cannot attend any of these three workshops.

Learn more about the NSGP on the [City's website](#).

### **5. Summer in the City Internship Applications Close Soon**

The City of Knoxville's [Summer in the City](#) internship program is a paid internship for applicants between ages 16 and 22, that runs for eight weeks, Tuesday, June 1 to Friday, July 28.

During the program, interns will be placed in various City departments, including ONE, Communications, 311, Human Resources, Community Empowerment, KAT, Community Safety, Knoxville Fire Department, Parks and Recreation, and others. Interns are expected to work 30 hours each week and will participate in two community service days.

To apply for this internship program, see the [application](#), and feel free to reach out to Youth Engagement Coordinator Emily Norris via email at [enorris@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:enorris@knoxvilletn.gov). Applications close this Sunday, April 23.

## **6. Walk with Elected Officials**

Bike Walk Knoxville is hosting a walking tour with local elected officials that connects Pond Gap, Forest Heights, and Bearden neighborhoods.

The event will be on Thursday, April 27, at 6 p.m. at the Everly Brothers Park, 4635 Kingston Pike. The walk will be about one mile around. A pint night will follow at Albright Grove Brewing Co.

For more, see [Bike Walk Knoxville's flyer](#).

## **7. Do You Know What a Tree Canopy Is?**

A tree canopy is the amount of tree cover in an area. In forest ecology, canopy refers to the upper layer or habitat zone, formed by mature tree crowns.

Learn more about Knoxville's tree canopy at upcoming events at which Trees Knoxville and partners will discuss the benefits of having a tree canopy and the process of creating the Knoxville Urban Forest Master Plan. Attendees will have the opportunity to share their thoughts about trees and the future of trees in Knoxville and the surrounding area.

Urban Trees Workshop at the University of Tennessee

- Wednesday, April 19
- 3-5 p.m. at the Student Union – Ballroom A
- Registration is not required – just show up.

Virtual Urban Forest Master Plan Open House

- Thursday, May 4
- 6-7:30 p.m. via Zoom
- Registration is required, [available here](#)

In-Person Urban Forest Master Plan Open House

- Thursday, May 11
- 4-7 p.m. at the Cansler YMCA, 616 Jessamine St.
- Presentations will be given at 5 p.m. and again at 6 p.m.

- Registration is not required – just show up.

If you can't attend any of these, you can invite someone from the team to attend your next meeting or fill out the online [survey](#).

## **8. Empower Knox Wants Your Input**

[Empower Knox](#), the City's initiative that supports Knoxville's youth, wants to understand your economic mobility and inclusion needs.

What does that mean?

- Education – Are you able to access quality education at the level you would like to have?
- Labor force – Do you have access to a well-paying job in a field that interests you?
- Banking accessibility – Are you able to get the financial services and information that you need?

If you are 14 years or older, please take the survey [here](#).

## **9. Keep Knoxville Beautiful Hosts South Knoxville Clean-Up**

[Keep Knoxville Beautiful](#) (KKB) is hosting a clean-up in South Knoxville on Saturday, April 22, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. The event will start from Mary Vestal Park, located at 522 Maryville Pike.

Volunteers will remove litter from South Knoxville roads, creeks, and parks. Participants of any age are welcome! The event rain date is Sunday, April 23, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Sign-ups are closed, but if you have any questions, contact KKB at [amanda@keepknoxvillebeautiful.org](mailto:amanda@keepknoxvillebeautiful.org) or 865-521-6957.

## **10. Applications are Open for the Knox County Youth Health Board**

The Youth Health Board (YHB) is accepting applications from Knox County high school students. The program is a great resume builder for potential college applications, and it provides a learning opportunity in the field of public health and other health-related professions. The deadline to apply is Monday, May 1.

Monthly meetings feature guest speakers and volunteer opportunities that enable students to explore and act on issues affecting our community, such as mental health, emergency preparedness, physical activity, nutrition, and adolescent health issues.

YHB applicants will need to commit to:

- Serving a one-year term, May 2023 – April 2024

- Attending monthly meetings
- Attending a minimum of two Social Focus meetings
- Serving a minimum of 15 hours through various volunteer and public health community events

Visit the YHB page to learn more about the program and to submit an application. For more information, please email [Taylor.Evans@knoxcounty.org](mailto:Taylor.Evans@knoxcounty.org). Follow our social media accounts to see testimonials for our current YHB team members.

### **11. Health Department Offers Free Diabetes Management Classes**

The Knox County Health Department (KCHD) will host a free three-part series about the management of diabetes on Thursday May 4, 11, and 18 from 6-7 p.m. in the KCHD Community Room, 140 Dameron Ave.

Topics for the series include:

- Diagnosis
- Healthy eating
- Physical activity
- Medications
- Day-to-day management

To register, please call 865-215-5170.

### **12. Save the Date for the East Knoxville Cleanup**

Be sure to mark your calendars for the East Knoxville Community Cleanup on Saturday, May 20.

This cleanup is hosted by 5PointsUp and will last from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Participants will meet at the Eternal Life Harvest Center at 2410 MLK Jr. Avenue to pick up equipment and materials.

Participants will also receive a free lunch at the conclusion of the cleanup.

For more information, call 865-546-5125.

### **13. Advance Knox is Still Seeking Feedback**

Do you care about growth and transportation in Knox County? Advance Knox needs your feedback and has extended the deadline to complete the survey to Sunday, April 23!

Please complete this [survey](#) to respond to a list of proposed transportation projects that will accompany a future land-use plan for Knox County.

[Advance Knox](#) is an effort to define a vision and create a plan that will guide growth, land use, transportation, economic prosperity, and quality of life in the County for years to come.

#### **14. CAC Offers Free Computer Classes for Seniors**

The Knoxville Knox County Community Action Committee (CAC) is offering laptop computer classes to residents over 60.

Participants who complete the 15-hour training are eligible to purchase a Chromebook laptop computer for \$25 (retail is \$150). CAC can also help participants apply for affordable connectivity program to save \$30 on home internet service.

Some classes are already planned, which you can join. Or if you have 12 people that fit the qualifications, you can have a class brought to your neighborhood/group.

To learn more, call 865-524-2786.

#### **15. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar** (click link for online calendar)

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

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 the City's Human Resources Department at [titlevi@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:titlevi@knoxvilletn.gov) or 865-215-3100. 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.

#### **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](#)

The City of Knoxville requires a permit to operate a short-term rental property. Details and a list of short-term rental permits are located on the City's website [here](#).

#### ***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.*