



**The Neighborly Notice** – Vol. 16, No. 31 – Tuesday, August 29, 2023

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Newsletter (PDF version): <https://bit.ly/NeighborlyNotice-2023-08-29>

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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 865-215-3232. News deadline: 12 noon on Fridays.*

[Like us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/KnoxvilleNeighborhoods](https://www.facebook.com/KnoxvilleNeighborhoods)

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## **1. Primary Election Day is Today**

If you didn't vote early, today is the day to vote in the City of Knoxville's Primary Election. Polls are open until 8 p.m. Where should you cast your ballot? It depends on where you live. Look up your polling location by typing in your address at <https://www.kgis.org/portal/OnlineTools/VotingLocationSearch.aspx>.

Seats to be chosen are:

City Mayor  
City Council At Large A  
City Council At Large B  
City Council At Large C  
Municipal Judge

For more information about the election, including sample ballots, visit [www.KnoxVotes.org](http://www.KnoxVotes.org).

Your voice matters. Get out and vote!

## **2. City Announces Labor Day Holiday Schedule**

City of Knoxville offices, including 311 and the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment, will be closed Monday, Sept. 4, for the Labor Day holiday.

Waste Connections WILL run residential garbage and recycling routes on Monday, Sept. 4.

Downtown trash and recycling will also be collected on its regular schedule throughout the Labor Day weekend.

The City's five recycling drop-off centers will be open, but the Goodwill attendant will not be available to receive household donations on Monday, Sept. 4.

The City's Solid Waste Facility, located at 1033 Elm St., will be closed on Saturday, Sept. 2 and Monday, Sept. 4.

Due to the holiday, Free for City Residents Saturday at the Solid Waste Facility will be held on the *second* Saturday of the month – Saturday, Sept. 9.

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

## **3. No Newsletter Next Week**

The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment will not produce a newsletter on Tuesday, Sept. 8. We will be back to it on Tuesday, Sept. 12.

In the meantime, if you miss the newsletter, feel free to visit our [Facebook page](#) to read about and share City- and neighborhood-related happenings.

If your neighborhood is planning an event you'd like to promote, or you have neighborhood news to share with Neighborly Notice readers, please reach out to either Hayley [hhoward@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:hhoward@knoxvilletn.gov) or Debbie [dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov) to see about getting an item in the newsletter.

The deadline to request an article in the newsletter is the Friday prior to Tuesday publication.

#### **4. Welcome ONE's Newest Intern, Whitney!**

The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment (ONE) is excited to welcome our newest intern, Whitney!

Whitney is pursuing her master's degree in Social Work through the University of Tennessee.

If you are in the City County Building, feel free to stop by and introduce yourself. She will be out and about in the community very soon.

#### **5. Friday is the Deadline for Leadership Training Classes**

The deadline to register for the Leadership Training class is this Friday, Sept. 1.

The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment (ONE) is proud to bring back our leadership training class called "Building Strong Neighborhood Organizations."

The program consists of 11 classes, starting Monday, Sept. 11, and running through Monday, Nov. 20. Graduation is slated for Saturday, Dec. 2.

If you are interested, send the following information to Debbie Sharp at [dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov) by Friday, Sept. 1, at 4:30 p.m.

- Name
- Neighborhood
- Address
- Years living in your neighborhood
- What you hope to gain by participating

It is a time commitment for participants, but one that is well worth the effort. Folks who complete the class will be eligible for Micro Grant Funding. Although there can be more than one person per neighborhood accepted into the training, there will only be one Micro Grant awarded per neighborhood.

Space is limited. Priority will be given to Knoxville residents, those who are new or newish to organizing, or those struggling to organize a neighborhood.

## **6. Neighborhoods Celebrate National Night Out**

Several neighborhoods have signed up to celebrate National Night Out on Tuesday, Oct. 3.

They are **Cold Springs Neighborhood Watch**, **Cumberland Estates Neighborhood Watch**, **Meadowview Neighborhood Watch**, and **Vestal Community Organization**.

If your neighborhood plans to celebrate, register following the instructions below. We will assist by notifying the Knoxville Police Department and the Knoxville Fire Department to schedule first responders to attend your event.

Register by sending the following information to Debbie Sharp at [dsharp@knoxville.tn.gov](mailto:dsharp@knoxville.tn.gov):

- Neighborhood Name
- Neighborhood Contact Name
- Contact Name's phone number
- Contact Name's email address
- Date of the Event
- Times of the Event
- Location of Event
- Type of Event

We encourage participating neighborhoods to [register for free](#) with the national organization to download the guide and coordinator toolkit. We look forward to seeing what you have planned for NNO!

## **7. City Seeks Feedback on Neighborhood Resource Fair**

The City's Office of Neighborhood Empowerment held a Neighborhood Resource Fair on Saturday, Aug. 12, at the Jacob Building.

Officially, 343 folks came through the Jacob Building; however, this number could be higher, as not everyone signed in at registration.

Here's a recap if you weren't able to attend:

A total of 83 booths were hosted by representatives of City and County government departments, utilities and non-profit agencies, including Zoo Knoxville, who brought a few live animals. Candidates for elected office met prospective voters and discussed their platforms in the Candidate's Corner. We gave out some awesome door prizes, and

many guests enjoyed free lunch at the concession stand. Just outside the back door, members of our Public Service crew demonstrated work trucks.

If you attended, we would love your input for next year. If you planned to attend, but could not, please let us know what kept you from joining us. If you did not know about the Neighborhood Resource Fair, you can still fill out the survey to let us know what you would like to see in the future.

Please take our 10-minute survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F77JP33>

## **8. August BBB and POH Meetings Cancelled**

The Better Building Board (BBB) meeting scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 31, has been cancelled as there is no business before the board. There will also not be a Public Officer Hearing, which was scheduled for Friday, Sept. 1.

The next BBB meeting will be held on Thursday, Sept. 28, in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building unless otherwise noted.

The next POH will be held on Friday, Sept. 29, in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building unless otherwise noted.

For more information, please visit the [City of Knoxville's website](#).

## **9. City Council Holds Workshop**

Knoxville City Council will hold a workshop on Thursday, Aug. 31, at 5:45 p.m. in the Main Assembly Room of the City-County Building, 400 Main Street, to review analysis and recommendations related to City Employee Discrimination and Harassment policies. Members of the public and media are welcome to attend.

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.

## **10. KPD Hosts East District Commander Forum**

East Knoxville neighbors are invited to the Knoxville Police Department's East District Commander Forum on Thursday, Aug. 31, 6-7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Central Baptist Church Fountain City, located at 5364 N. Broadway.

East District Commander Nevin Long and his support staff will speak with residents regarding public safety, crime data and quality of life concerns.

The East District includes areas east of I-275, except downtown and South Knoxville, which is in the Central District. You can review the Field Operation District Beat Map [here](#).

The goal of the forum is to meet with community members to discuss current crime and ongoing issues within the East District; and they will discuss what the department is doing to resolve those issues.

For more info and to RSVP, visit the Facebook event page [here](#).

### **11. Trees Knoxville Presents Urban Forestry Master Plan Update**

Residents are invited to an Urban Forest Master Plan open house on Wednesday, Sept. 13, from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Public Works Building Community Room, 3131 Morris Ave.

The City of Knoxville, Trees Knoxville and area stakeholders have been working together for several months on steps toward creating an Urban Forest Master Plan, a guide for addressing our city's tree coverage and urban canopy. The Discovery Phase of the process collected ideas, opinions and priorities of community members during multiple public, neighborhood and steering committee meetings, as well as an online survey. Now, the results are ready to be reviewed in preparation for the next phase.

Join them to find out what folks are saying and to give your feedback to the plan.

### **12. City Seeks Input on Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report**

The City's Office of Housing and Neighborhood Development seeks public input on a draft of its 2022-2023 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) between Sept. 13 and 27, 2023. All comments must be received no later than Wednesday, Sept. 27.

The draft report outlines how the City spent federal HUD (Housing and Urban Development) funds between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023, on local activities that align with the Consolidated Plan: to reduce and prevent homelessness; stabilize and revitalize neighborhoods; and create economic opportunity.

The report will be available for review online at [www.knoxvilletn.gov/development](http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/development) and in person at the City's Housing and Neighborhood Development Office, Suite 532B (5th Floor City-County Building), 400 Main St.

The draft report may also be mailed to interested parties upon request by calling Linda Rust at 865-215-2357. The final report will be submitted to HUD by Saturday, Sept 30.

Input may be submitted in writing to Linda Rust by emailing [lrust@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:lrust@knoxvilletn.gov) or mailed to Linda Rust, City of Knoxville, Housing and Neighborhood Development Department, P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville TN 37901.

### **13. Volunteers Needed for Good Citizens Cemetery Cleanup Day**

Volunteers are still needed for the Good Citizens Cemetery Cleanup Day taking place next Saturday, Sept. 9, from 8-11 a.m. at 1027 Fuller Ave.

By participating in the cleanup, you can help make the cemetery more accessible, clear invasive species and groundcover for walkability and grass growth, and help lay soil to alleviate sunken ground spots to even the grade.

This event is hosted by Trees Knoxville. [Sign-up](#) to volunteer by visiting [www.treesknoxville.org/events](http://www.treesknoxville.org/events).

### **14. AARP Raises Awareness about Scams**

The AARP is raising awareness about scams this month.

**Natural Disaster Scams:** After a natural disaster such as a tornado or a wildfire, there have been reports of scammers offering quick, cheap fixes for damaged homes with no intention of completing the project.

Many of these dubious contractors target older people. For tips on finding a contractor you can trust, visit the AARP's [guide for Avoiding Disaster Scams](#).

**Charity Scams:** Contributing to charity can help communities rebuild after natural disasters, but donors should be wary of criminal charity scams. AARP suggests looking up the charity before responding to donation requests. For resources to help discern which charities are legitimate, visit the AARP's guide for [Avoiding Charity Scams](#).

**IRS Refund Scams:** This summer, the IRS is warning taxpayers to be on the lookout for a mailing scam in relation to unclaimed tax refunds. The letter comes in a cardboard envelope requesting the recipient send photos of their driver's license, Social Security number, and bank routing numbers. To learn more about these fraudulent letters, visit the [IRS's website](#).

If you spot a scam, you can stop a scam. Visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network to [report a scam or view the Scam-Tracking Map](#).

### **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.

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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](#)

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.*