

PROFILES

SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS



Here are brief biographical sketches of the speakers and moderators at The Neighborhood Conference on Saturday, March 11, 2017.

Jennifer Alldredge, Education Team Program Manager for the Alliance to Save Energy, works mainly in the Southeast, educating and training students about energy efficiency practices. She conducted workshops as part of Knoxville's Extreme Energy Makeover (KEEM) program, which was aimed at energy efficiency upgrades for low-income residents. She works with local K-12 schools involved in the Alliance's PowerSave Schools. A LEED Green Associate and GreenFaith Fellow, she sits on several local boards, including the U.S. Green Building Council and Tennessee Interfaith Power and Light.

Jenny Arthur first got involved in the Old Sevier neighborhood in 1996 as an Americorps member when she helped to organize a neighborhood clean-up. Presently, she serves on the OSCG steering committee, runs the Facebook page, and is the "Old Sevier Butterfly Chair," leading the neighborhood's efforts to be hospitable to monarchs and other butterflies.

Maha Ayesh is an attorney who practices in the field of civil rights and employment law. She was born and raised in Knoxville and has been a life-long member of the Muslim Community of Knoxville, currently serving on its Board of Directors. For over a decade, she has been involved in community outreach and building bridges between interfaith communities. She lives in the Bearden area with her husband and three daughters.

Rhonda Bender is a Proud Grandma and Mother of two Army soldiers. She works for the Knoxville Police Department as an Animal Control Officer. She has several certifications for animal care, welfare, rescue, FEMA / TEMA disaster responder, and shelter management, and she is the D.A.R.T (Disaster Animal Response Team) Leader for Anderson County, Tenn. Among other past positions, she has worked for Toole Springs Zoo in Nevada, Knoxville Zoo and an exotic animal ranch. When not working with animals, she is working as a local actress.

LaShea Brabson is a native of Knoxville, graduate of Austin East High School, and mother of two. She is an entrepreneur, the chairwoman of Wilder Street Community, and a committee member of the Alliance House Community of Knoxville's Urban Agriculture Committee. She was employed with Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance for 15 years as a supervisor. She has served on various nonprofit community-based committees that required her to interact with the people of the neighborhood.

Stephanie Brewer Cook is the City's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator and liaison to the Mayor's Council on Disability Issues. She reviews proposed projects to ensure they are accessible and inclusive of seniors and people with disabilities. She works to provide reasonable accommodations to both the public and employees, and

educates the design and construction industry about accessibility. She is the Chair of the Knoxville Area Employment Consortium (KAEC) and past Chair of the Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities. She serves as a board member of Disability Rights Tennessee and the Epilepsy Foundation of East Tennessee.

David Brace is the City's Senior Director of Public Works. He holds an undergraduate degree in human ecology (community health) and a Master's degree in planning, both from the University of Tennessee. He started working for the City of Knoxville in 2002 in Community Development before moving to Public Service in 2004. After serving as Deputy Director, he was appointed by Mayor Rogero to be Public Service Director in 2011 and Senior Director of Public Works in 2015. Prior to joining the City of Knoxville, Brace was a firefighter/EMT in Knox County for Rural Metro Corp. and worked as a consultant in the industrial rescue and safety field.

Sarah Bounse grew up Knoxville, where she still lives, works, plays and prays. Her work focuses on health equity issues in Knoxville and Knox County. She works alongside East Knoxville residents in community building efforts to reduce and eliminate barriers to health. She also serves on the board for a local non-profit, KnowHow Knoxville. KnowHow uses the arts to engage and empower youth of all ages to become leaders in their own communities. Sarah has a Master of Public Health (MPH) with a dual focus on health behavior and health services management from the University of Kentucky. She also has a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in English literature from the University of Tennessee. She is employed by the Knox County Health Department as a health educator.

Andrew Brown is serving in his first year as the Principal at South-Doyle Middle School. Prior to returning home to Knoxville, Mr. Brown was an elementary school principal in Bristol, Tenn., for the past ten years. During his time in Bristol, Mr. Brown initiated a community school program to focus on reading deficits at his school. The program, Reading Buddies, received regional attention and several national awards. He is an advocate for parent and community involvement.

Amy Broyles is a resident of North Knoxville and a former member of Knox County Commission. Over the last year she has become increasingly active in responding to those in need in her community.

Clarita Buffaloe has been a resident of Holston Hills for most of her 58 years. She is serving a three-year term as a board member of Town Hall East, participates as one of two representatives for Holston Hills on the Knoxville Dogwood Arts Trails Committee, is the current president of the Historic Holston Hills Community Club, and is one of three trustees for the Community Club. She is an active member of several committees in her church, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

Kaye Bultemeier is the president of RiverHill Gateway Neighborhood Association, which she helped form 18 months ago. The association — which includes businesses and nonprofits as well as residents — worked diligently to commission an art sculpture that depicts some of the uniqueness of the community. Originally from Indiana, she and her husband moved to Knoxville in 2012 after serving two years in the Peace Corps in Malawi. Her service in the Peace Corps, where she learned that "real change is only

effective through community," was her inspiration to organize her community in Knoxville.

Tim Burchett is serving his second term as Mayor of Knox County. He attributes his commitment to a career in public service to his parents, Charlie and Joyce Burchett, who were both educators. As Mayor, Tim Burchett has focused on restoring public trust in Knox County government, ensuring quality service to citizens, improving efficiency in government, and providing financial savings to taxpayers. He began serving in the State House of Representatives in 1994 and was elected the first of three terms as 7th District Tennessee State Senator in 1998. After serving a total of 16 years in the Legislature, he was first elected Knox County Mayor in 2010.

Gene Burr is a local architect whose professional career and civic life have been devoted to problem-solving for individuals, neighborhoods, and entire communities. As an architect and urban planner, he has focused on the design of the physical environment, with emphasis on historic preservation. His firm has designed municipal facilities, parks, churches, and residences; he has also restored two historic county courthouses — in Knox and Jefferson Counties. He uses the design process to encourage critical thinking skills in K-12 art classes. Most recently he has donated his time and talents to the Vestal Community Organization.

Amy Buttry is a UT graduate with a degree in Business Administration. She is the executive director of the Humane Society of the Tennessee Valley (HSTV), which works to reduce the euthanasia of adoptable animals. She began volunteering for HSTV in 2003, spent time rescuing animals in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, became the HSTV board treasurer in 2008, and joined the staff as finance director in 2010. She became HSTV's executive director in 2015.

Claudia Caballero, a Honduran-American, is the executive director of Centro Hispano de East Tennessee. Centro is an educational nonprofit that promotes the empowerment and civic participation of the Latino and multicultural families of East Tennessee through education and social services. Claudia and her team organize monthly workshops to discuss topics of relevance to the Latino community, especially on how to navigate their new surroundings and how to become an active part of society. Centro offers English classes for adults, a Spanish-language information and referral phone line, and afterschool programs for children from Spanish-speaking families.

Nancy S. Campbell is president of the Island Home Park Neighborhood Association. A 30-year Island Home Park resident, she is also the neighborhood's representative to the South Knoxville Neighborhood and Business Coalition (SKNBC). Her background in visual arts and education is a good match with neighborhood organizations, with their diverse interests, creative energy, and limited funding.

Ronnie Collins is a retired truck driver and the longtime president of the Alice Bell Spring Hills Neighborhood Association.

Angie Davidson is the Recreation Program Coordinator for the City of Knoxville's Parks and Recreation Department. She works with aquatics, the 13 recreation centers, parks, greenways, athletics to increase and sustain recreational programs offered to Knoxville residents. Previously she helped stroke patients at the Patricia Neal Rehabilitation

Center and adults with autism at Breakthrough Corporation. With her recreational therapy background, Angie has expanded the concept of inclusive programming for all citizens and has also become a member of the Mayor's Council on Disability Issues. She is also president of the Chenoweth Homeowners Association and is board member of the nonprofit organization Power of Play (POP).

Kelley DeLuca was born and raised in Knoxville and has lived in neighborhoods all over the city. For the last 11 years, she has lived with her husband and daughter at their home in Lindbergh Forest in South Knoxville. Several years ago, Kelley worked with another neighbor to restart the Lindbergh Forest Neighborhood Association, which had been inactive for years. One of their first tasks was the expansion of the neighborhood boundaries, almost doubling the size of the neighborhood and including a diverse constituency. Now Lindbergh Forest has a consistent attendance at its monthly meetings, a very active Facebook page, a beautiful website and many neighborhood activities and projects.

Dawn Distler is the director of transit for the City of Knoxville and head of Knoxville Area Transit (KAT). She got her start in the transportation field as a bus operator in Dayton, Ohio, where she rose to operations manager for ADA/paratransit services and assistant director of customer services. She then moved to Nashville, serving first as director of operations and later as general manager of operations and maintenance for Davidson Transit Organization. She joined the City of Knoxville in 2014.

Gary Drinnen is the founder of Targeted Strategy, a full-service marketing and strategic communications firm specializing in political and public relations campaigns in the Southeast. The firm specializes in overall strategic planning, direct mail, media production and placement, and public opinion surveys. Gary's experience on political campaigns covers over 30 campaigns, including campaigns for federal, state, and local offices in Tennessee and other states. He is a graduate of Central High School, Maryville College, Leadership Loudon County, and East Tennessee Regional Leadership. He is a board member of Habitat for Humanity of Tennessee.

Michael Duerr is vice president of the Edgewood Park Neighborhood Association (EPNA), which he joined just two months after he moved into the neighborhood in early 2015. He has been involved in the formation and hosting of EPNA's Third Thursday events, and in spearheading "Safety Saturday" and "National Night Out" special events. He has worked to enhance EPNA's relationship with KPD, emergency response teams, veterans' organizations, and other community groups.

Michael Dunthorn grew up in Oak Ridge and graduated with a degree in Political Science from UT. He has worked in the City of Knoxville's Community Development Department for over 17 years, focusing for most of that time on the issue of homelessness. He currently serves as the coordinator for the city's Office on Homelessness.

Courtney Durrett is the president of the Fountaincrest Neighborhood Association, one of Knoxville's newest neighborhood groups. At UT she earned a M.S. degree in Education with a concentration in Secondary Education and a B.A. degree in Political Science with a minor in History. She worked for the Tennessee State Senate in Nashville before devoting seven years to teaching high school government and history.

Rynn Dupes is a Knoxville native and has been involved in the League of Women Voters since 2010. Before she was elected President in May 2015, she served as Newsletter Editor, First Vice President, and Second Vice President. In December of 2013, Rynn earned her Master's degree in Communication and Information from the University of Tennessee. Currently, Rynn works full-time as the Advancement Specialist in the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs at the University of Tennessee College of Law. She also serves on the Knox County Foster Care Review Board.

Emma Ellis-Cosigua is vice president of the Oakwood Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association. As a community bridge builder and multifaceted teacher, she is active in many civic endeavors in Knoxville, including work with the immigrant community. She is an independent insurance agent. Born in Guatemala, she lived in New York and New Jersey before moving to Knoxville five years ago to spend time with her son and grandchildren.

Beth Field works in the athletics division of the City of Knoxville's Parks and Recreation Department.

Jordan Frye is on the staff of Great Schools Partnership, serving as the Norwood Community School Site Coordinator. Previously, as a student in the UT College of Social Work, she interned with the City's 311 Call Center and Office of Neighborhoods.

Cal Gill, Jr. is a current resident at Flenniken Landing. Originally from Florida, Cal has resided in Knoxville for the past 15 years. While he has experienced a number of life struggles, including homelessness, he has found stability within a permanent supportive housing situation. He has resided at Flenniken Landing for three and a half years.

Erin Gill serves as director of the City of Knoxville's Office of Sustainability. Appointed by Mayor Madeline Rogero in 2013, she oversees efforts to improve the environmental, economic, and social health of the Knoxville community. Her professional experience focuses on improving the efficiency and resilience of urban systems and includes roles at ICF International and EPA's Office of the Chief Financial Officer. She received a Master of Environmental Management degree from the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and a B.A. in History from the University of Notre Dame.

Sandy Gillespie is president of the Kingston Pike-Sequoyah Hills Association, a post he has held off and on for five years. He has been a board member of that neighborhood organization for 10 years, and he has been a member of the Bearden Council for nine years and Community Forum for nine years. His professional career was focused on banking and data processing.

Danny Gray, a Knoxville resident since 1975, worked 30 years for the City of Gatlinburg Recreation Department. Since retiring he has been active in his South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association, the South Knoxville Neighborhood and Business Coalition (SKNBC), and the Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC).

Gerald Green, the executive director of the Metropolitan Planning Commission, received his bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech and his master's degree in Planning from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. He also holds a Certificate in County

Administration from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, where he was awarded the Edwin Gill Outstanding Student Award. His career began with a short stint at the East Tennessee Development District, followed by about 30 years in western North Carolina. He worked for the City of Asheville and also owned a planning and design firm. Involvement in community has been a constant for Gerald and he has served on the boards of a host of community organizations. He joined MPC in 2015.

Jim Hagerman has been the director of engineering for the City of Knoxville since 2012. Previously, he worked as a water resources engineer with TVA. As engineering director, he manages programs that maintain and improve the City's streets. He is committed to the Mayor's vision of bringing sustainability into City operations. Before working for the City, Jim was active in the Island Home Park Neighborhood Association. He has a history of involvement in bicycle advocacy and education, and he has ridden bikes for transportation and recreation for decades.

Tim Hester is the Parks & Greenways Coordinator for the City of Knoxville. His experience with parks & greenways includes eight years as city manager for the City of Norris, plus 10 years of service on the Norris Planning Commission. Tim is an avid walker and hiker.

Cheri Hollifield is the Administrative Specialist for Neighborhood Codes Enforcement for the City of Knoxville. She has been with the City for 12 years, eight of which have been spent with Codes improving processes, working with neighborhoods, and searching for solutions for blighted properties.

Cindy Hood is an active parent volunteer at Norwood Elementary School. As a volunteer for Knoxville Internationals Network, she directed "VBS in the City" at Norwood Manor Apartments and served as a community partner for Norwood Elementary and Northwest Middle School. She was an adult ESL (English as a Second Language) at Central Baptist Church in Bearden and a director of Summer English Camp at Norwood United Methodist Church. At Central Baptist, she led efforts by her Sunday School class to sponsor a Turkish family through Bridge Refugee Services. She and her family moved from West Knoxville to Norwood in 2016 to become even more active in serving refugees in that community.

Chris Howley, P.E., is Engineering Planning Chief for the City of Knoxville. He supervises the Stormwater Division in the Engineering Department. Chris holds B.S. and M.S degrees Civil and Environmental Engineering, and he has over 20 years of experience in the engineering field.

Anthony Ingram works for the Boy Scouts of America (BSA), Great Smoky Mountain Council, where he is district director of the area covering inner-city Knoxville. He is a member of the Knoxville Chamber Ambassadors, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of East Tennessee, the Downtown Kiwanis, the Partners in Education Advisory Board, the Beck Cultural Exchange Center, the ReachThem2TeachThem Advisory Board, and the Trinity Health Foundation Advisory Board. An Eagle Scout himself, he attended South Carolina State University, graduating Summa Cum Laude with a BA in Professional Theatre and a minor in Spanish.

Russ Jensen is director of the City of Knoxville's 311 call services, which he designed, built, and implemented under then Mayor Bill Haslam in 2004. He recently negotiated an agreement with the Knoxville/Knox County Office on Aging and the United Ways of East Tennessee to bring 211 information and referral services into the 311 Call Center. Russ is active in the Rotary Club of Knoxville, works with victim advocacy groups across the country, and is the host of "Knoxville Now!" on 96.3 FM. He has worked with the Governor's office and the Commissioner of Homeland Security on a specific public safety plan focusing on the prevention of violence in the home. Prior to joining the City, he was the East Tennessee general manager for Rural Metro.

Wayne A. Kline was employed as an Associate Professor in the U.T. Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology for several years before entering law school. He received his law degree from U.T. in 1988 and joined Hodges, Doughty & Carson that same year. Wayne has extensive experience representing homeowners in zoning and land management disputes and more than 28 years of experience in general liability, trial practice, and litigation. He provides litigation, legal support services for employment related and human resources issues for businesses, medical practices and corporations. Wayne is very active in the Knoxville Bar Association, other professional associations, and nonprofit organizations devoted to hearing and speech issues.

Don Loy has been a neighborhood advocate for 45 years — in the Fourth and Gill neighborhood from 1972 to 1996 and in the Fountain City Tatewood neighborhood to the present. He has been involved in all kinds of neighborhood activities from street fairs and town meetings to neighborhood watches. He is a retired teacher.

Julie Lopez has lived in Timbercrest subdivision for seven years. Both she and her husband are active in the Timbercrest Neighborhood Association, which she serves as board secretary. They work with other neighbors to plan and host a variety of neighborhood events, and they help maintain the neighborhood's park and pool.

Sean McDermott is Assistant District Attorney in the Knox County District Attorney General's Office, which has executed forty-seven (47) nuisance injunctions against criminal enterprises since July 2010. As a member of the Felony Drug Unit, Assistant District Attorney McDermott has been involved in the prosecution of every nuisance injunction to date. The DA's Office has worked closely with the Knoxville Police Department to shut down bars, residences, motels, and other locations for violations of the state nuisance law, including illegal drug and alcohol sales, prostitution, and gambling.

Gerry Moll, MFA (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor), is a mixed media sculptor living and working in the Historic Fourth and Gill neighborhood. Gerry established MollWorks in 2011, an art studio dedicated to public art, commissions, and exhibitions. Gerry possesses a firm belief in the power of art for positive transformation. He has dedicated himself, and focused his talent as an artist, to work that affirms our best qualities as a community. His recent public artwork includes such projects as the TRAshball Collective, Southern Red Oak Tribute, and the Invasive Species Sculpture Project. He is also co-founder of the Native Plant Rescue Squad and founder of the Labor Day Sunflower Project.

John Morgan is the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator in the Knoxville Police Department's Safety Education Unit.

Robert Moyers heads the City of Knoxville's Neighborhood Codes Office.

Bill Murrah was reared near Scottsboro, Alabama; attended Samford University and later, Union Seminary in New York; and moved into the inner city of Knoxville in 1972. He has been a resident in Fourth and Gill for 45 years. After 10 years working with the neighborhood organization, he worked 29 years with Legal Aid of East Tennessee, retiring in 2011. He was instrumental in helping the Office of Neighborhoods develop and then teach the "Building Strong Neighborhood Organizations" leadership training program

Fran Nichols is a member of both the Moss Creek Villas Homeowners Association and the Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC). She has been active in the neighborhood organization in every Knoxville neighborhood she has lived in, including Fourth and Gill, Fountain City, Historic Gibbs Drive, and Autumn Walk, as well as Moss Creek.

Dennis Owen is a former president of Kingston Pike Sequoyah Hills Association, a longtime member of Bearden Council, and a past member of the Neighborhood Advisory Council. He serves on the Knoxville Pension Board.

Terrell Patrick, who is retired from Oak Ridge National Laboratories, is the president of Cold Springs Neighborhood Watch, a member of the City's Better Building Board, and a recent appointee to the Neighborhood Advisory Council.

Gina Pittenger is an animal lover and works as a dentist in Karns. Prior to moving to Knoxville, she and her husband lived near Nashville, where they owned a seven-acre hobby farm in the county. They took in rescue animals and eventually found homes for them. They learned a great deal about wild animals and livestock, as well as local laws concerning animals and animal control. She is a graduate of the Knoxville Police Department's Citizens Police Academy, and she does volunteer work for KPD.

Jay Price is the co-founder of the Marble City Neighborhood Organization in Knoxville, where he has lived for the past 9 years. He organized several neighborhood and creek cleanups that paved the way for the neighborhood organization and positive changes in the neighborhood along Sutherland Avenue.

David Rausch, chief of police in the City of Knoxville, has been with KPD since January 1993. For most of his tenure, he served in various roles in the Patrol Division. His only assignment outside of patrol was a temporary assignment to assist the Training Division to instruct and mentor the Basic Police Recruit Class in 1995. He has served as the Commanding Officer for the Patrol Division and for each of the Patrol Division Districts, as well as the Staff Officer for the Deputy Chief of Patrol. He was promoted through the ranks from Officer to Sergeant in 1998, Sergeant to Lieutenant in 2002, Lieutenant to Captain in 2006, Captain to Deputy Chief in 2009, and to Chief of Police in 2011.

Lynn Redmon is a longtime community advocate and president of the Norwood Homeowners Association. In those roles he has been especially active in monitoring proposed zoning changes in Norwood and across the City, and then advocating a

neighborhood preservation point of view in public forums about those proposed changes. He has also served on the Norwood Community School Steering Committee.

Dr. Avice Evans Reid, a native of Knoxville, is the City's Senior Director of Community Relations. She is the liaison between community organizations and the city, addressing the concerns of these groups. Her department is also responsible for administering Knoxville City Government's community engagement efforts including the City's Save Our Sons initiative; the Police Advisory and Review Committee (PARC); the Title VI Program; and EEO compliance. Dr. Reid is very active in the Knoxville community and is serving, or has served, as a director on numerous non-profit boards serving citizens throughout the city, gaining valuable knowledge about the needs of the community.

Jennifer Reynolds is the treasurer of Timbercrest Neighborhood Association and was recently appointed to Mayor Rogero's Neighborhood Advisory Council. She holds a bachelor's degree in communication and a master's degree in business. Jennifer has participated in the planning of many seasonal placemaking events as well as the management of her neighborhood park. She focuses on budget-friendly initiatives that promote a sense of community and belonging.

Madeline Rogero is serving her second term as Mayor of the City of Knoxville. For 35 years she has served Knoxville as a community development director, county commissioner, non-profit executive, urban and regional planner, community volunteer, and neighborhood champion. She serves or has served on numerous boards, commissions and task forces locally and nationally. She has received numerous awards, including the Lizzie Crozier French Women's Leadership Award, sponsored by the East Tennessee Women's Leadership Summit in recognition of her ongoing dedication to the advancement of women.

Finbarr Saunders is serving his second term as an at-large member of Knoxville City Council. A Knoxville native, he returned from a tour in Vietnam to enter the banking field. His long career of community service includes serving as board member of more than a dozen different organizations, including the Historic Zoning Commission, Knox Heritage, East Tennessee Quality Growth and numerous others. He was president of the Westwood Homeowners Association from 1998 through 2002 and a member of Knox County Commission from 2008 through 2010. He was elected to City Council in 2011.

Father Ragan Schriver, PsyD, MSW, is Assistant Professor of Practice and Director, Master of Science in Social Work Program, UT College of Social Work.

Mary Linda Schwarzbart, a graduate of Fulton and UTK, is a business and grants consultant. She submitted her first (and successful) grant proposal in 2002 for Project GRAD Knoxville as its first Director of Business Operations. She provides research and technical support; and is her team's federal grants submission manager. She was interim executive director for the East Tennessee Community Design Center in 2014. A 2005 Leadership Knoxville Class alum, she served two terms as class representative to the board, and is on the Introduction Knoxville Committee. She is a founding member of the East Tennessee Civil Rights Working Group and a member of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance Community Relations Committee.

Stan Sharp is the Fire Chief for the City of Knoxville.

Chris Smith joined the Knoxville Leadership Foundation (KLF) as Flenniken Landing's Director in August 2016. Prior to employment with KLF, Chris spent 10 years working for the Public Defender's Community Law Office (CLO) as a forensic social worker. He specialized in supportive counseling services, substance abuse and psychosocial assessment, resource linkage, alternative sentencing advocacy, and resource linkage for clients in the criminal justice system. He received his master's education at the University of Tennessee in 2006 and is currently a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW). He is a member of the National Association of Social Workers and the Knoxville/Knox County Homeless Coalition.

Clint Smith is a Wildlife Officer with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and is assigned mainly to Knox County. A 2004 graduate of Tennessee Tech University with a B.A. degree in wildlife and fisheries biology, Clint has been with TWRA for 12 years.

Ann Strange is a 35-year South Knoxville resident. She was an early participant in and then president of the Lake Forest Neighborhood Association, as well as a co-founder of the South Knoxville Neighborhood and Business Coalition (SKNBC). She believes strongly in citizen participation in local communities.

Cassandra McGee Stuart serves as Secretary of the Knox County Election Commission and is Manager of the Small Business Program at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. She has worked in media, public relations and business development for about 30 years. A graduate of Leadership Knoxville, she has served on numerous boards, including the East Tennessee Foundation. She worked in the past for WBIR-TV, CNN-Headline News and the Knoxville Chamber. She has a bachelor's in Communications from UT and a Master's in Management from Colorado State. She is currently a doctoral student in business administration at Lincoln Memorial University.

Liz Capparelli Thacker works for Great Schools Partnership as the Site Resource Coordinator for Northwest Middle. This is her second school year running Northwest as a Community School, but her fifth year working as a Coordinator. She spent her first three years getting Norwood Elementary up and running as a Community School. Two years ago, she decided to try her hand with a middle school and moved over to open Northwest Middle as a Community School. As a Coordinator, Liz works with the school, parents, community stakeholders and partners to address the needs of the school and students, as well as the community at large.

Janice Tocher is a 30-year resident of South Knoxville and a founding member of South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association. She is also a founding member of the South Knoxville Neighborhood and Business Coalition and the South Knoxville Alliance. She is a graduate of the CAC Community Leadership course. Janice is vice chair of the Metropolitan Planning Commission. Her guide when making decisions about Knoxville/Knox County planning and land use is to ensure development is done responsibly with concern for the economy, neighborhoods, and the scenic beauty of Knoxville and Knox County.

Paul Trumppore is a captain in the Knoxville Fire Department and the department's chaplain.

Millie Ward has been a resident of Knoxville for over five years. Now retired from many years of service as a teacher, professor, researcher and grant writer, she resides with her husband, Jim, in Holston Hills. Since moving to Holston Hills, she has helped create three grants for Holston Hills Community Park and one for Tank Strickland Park. She has been a member of Holston Hills Community Club for five years, and has served as an Executive Board member, Co-chair of the Garden Club, and member of the Holston Hills Dogwood Committee. In addition, she is active in Town Hall East, serving on the executive Board and the Parks Committee. Currently, she serves as Vice President, Chair of the Schools Committee, and member of the Parks Committee.

Cecelia J. Waters is the Energy and Community Services director for the Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee (CAC). Her primary role is providing energy (bill payments) to Knox County residents through programs funded by federal fuel funds, churches, and local funding sources. These programs include the Low Income Home Energy Assistant Program (LIHEAP), PROJECT HELP, and Ladies of Charity, to name a few. She is also an associate of the CAC's Community Leadership Program, a training program for current and emerging leaders. As a longtime CAC staff member, she feels that "helping people, changing lives" is the foundation that allows CAC to move individuals and families to economic self-sufficiency.

Stephanie Welch joined Great Schools Partnership (GSP) in 2013 to develop and implement the community schools initiative. Since then, the initiative has expanded from three pilot sites to 12 community schools located in Knoxville's most challenged neighborhoods. In 2016, Stephanie became GSP's Interim President, leading a team of 40 employees who work across several programs in support of GSP's mission to serve as a catalyst, think tank, incubator, start-up funder and operational partner for creating the best public schools in the South. She is as a Major in the United States Army Reserve and lives in South Knoxville's Island Home Park neighborhood.

Ann L. White is a north Knoxville resident and owner of a business that trains adults and children in etiquette and protocol. A graduate of The University of Tennessee, she has been very active in our community by leading various nonprofits as executive director and serving on many local boards. She is the former executive director of the Bijou Theatre and The American Institute of Architects, East Tennessee Chapter. Ann was the president of The University of Tennessee National Alumni Association, Knox County Chapter, with over 40,000 members and is the only person ever to receive Volunteer of the Year at the Knoxville Police Department.

Sally Wilcox has lived in the same house in Knoxville's historic North Hills neighborhood for 25 years. As a North Hills Garden Club member, she chaired the organization's biennial Holiday Home Tour in 2016 and has co-chaired its annual Perennial Plant Sale for five years. Proceeds from both of these popular fundraisers go toward improvement and beautification of the neighborhood's boulevards and park. She and her husband Roy enjoy displaying their yard and gardens as a Dogwood Arts camera site and a stop on the garden club's newest event, the annual North Hills Garden Tour.

A Knoxville native, **Jenny Wright** has lived in Historic Fourth and Gill for five years. She serves as a member of the Broadway Corridor Task Force and the city's Neighborhood

Advisory Council. As a representative to those organizations, she uses her voice to relay concerns and suggestions from neighbors and relies on information from the two organizations to better inform neighbors about important community developments, events, and policies. In February 2017, Jenny began her fourth year of service on the Historic Fourth and Gill Neighborhood Organization board and her second year as president.

Jim York is the Finance Director for the City of Knoxville and has served in that position since December 2007. He previously served as Deputy Finance Director for the City of Knoxville beginning in 1988. His professional career involves over 37 years in public finance with several local governments. He has served as OMB Director for Alachua County, Fla.; Budget Officer for the City of Tacoma, Wash.; and as Operations Analyst for the City of Des Moines, Iowa. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Eastern Kentucky University and a Master's degree in Public Affairs from Indiana University. He has completed additional graduate work at the University of Georgia.

Ellen Zavisca has been a transportation planner with the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) since 2005. Her focus has been on greenway planning, Safe Routes to School, and health. Her projects have included creating multiple bike/ped and greenway plans, and rejuvenating the Great Smoky Mountains Regional Greenway Council. She is certified by the League of American Bicyclists as a bicycle safety instructor and teaches Street Skills for Bicyclists classes and bicycle rodeos offered by the TPO. She has a master's degree in urban planning from University of Illinois-Chicago and lives in the Edgewood Park neighborhood of North Knoxville.

Liza Zenni's career in non-profit administration has spanned 20 years. Since 2002 she has served as Executive Director of the Arts & Culture Alliance of Greater Knoxville, a membership-based organization of artists, arts and culture organizations, historic homes, and arts supporters in 11 East Tennessee counties. Liza led the creation of the Emporium Center in 2004 and now manages its spaces, which are home to eight arts organizations, ten artist studios, and countless exhibits. Under her direction, the Alliance developed and administers the Arts & Heritage Fund, created to provide additional financial support to the local non-profit arts and heritage field. She also leads the City of Knoxville's Public Arts Committee.