Nominees for Good Neighbor of the Year

**David Gillette** co-chairs Mechanicsville Homecoming. He led the charge to find a missing community member, talked a young man into turning himself in after he had committed a serious crime, and offered his assistance at the scene of gun violence incidents. Responding to the lack of retail businesses and jobs in the black community, he opened LaFetta’s Soul Food Restaurant, where he employs young people who are graduates of the Austin East Magnet High School culinary arts program. *Nominated by Clyde W. Anderson.*

Not long after moving into the neighborhood, **Helen Bachrach** began volunteering her time to the RiverHill Gateway Neighborhood Association. She became the group secretary. She took charge of planting and watering the 20 planter boxes that the group installed, with city approval, on the railings at either end of the Hill Avenue Bridge. She stepped up to lead the group when the president had to be away for several months. And she was a key organizer of social events. *Nominated by Kaye Bultemeier.*

**Kirk Anderson** has been active in the neighborhood pool nonprofit and the Timbercrest Neighborhood Association, as well as neighborhood watch. He works on beautifying the two entrances to the neighborhood and donates his yard for community activities. And he watches out for neighbors, performing numerous acts of kindness, especially for seniors, such as picking up groceries twice each week for one shut-in couple. Some neighbors call him the Mayor of Timbercrest. *Nominated by Mr. and Mrs. L. James Newbill.*

An active member of “Top of the Ridge” Neighborhood Watch, **Paula Minhinnett** picks up trash on her daily walks in the neighborhood, gets to know neighbors, and reports anything of concern. She initiates and organizes social gatherings and other activities to create a sense of community among neighbors. She welcomes new neighbors, sends expressions of concern to families experiencing death or hard times, and freely offers assistance to neighbors in need. *Nominated by Suzanne Matheny.*
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Stuart Hall played a key role in the formation of the West Haven Village Neighborhood Community. He also revived the Neighborhood Watch, established a Next Door website, recruited block captains, and reached out to neighbors to get involved. He has organized National Night Out events and cultivated a working relationship with the Knoxville Police Department. He urges neighbors to vote for the candidates of their choice in local elections, and he invites elected officials to neighborhood meetings. Nominated by Steven Disney.

As a resident of a multi-unit senior living complex in East Knoxville, Sylvia Cook organized a Neighborhood Watch group despite predictions it would not succeed. She has now led the Eastport Five Points Neighborhood Watch for several years, presiding over monthly meetings. She organizes an annual chili event to honor first responders. Her contribution to the annual Winter Fest in Hardy Park last year was to create a “giving tree” of mittens, scarves, socks and hats at the annual Winter Wonderland event. Nominated by Beth Bacon.

Yarrish Cook lives in Mechanicsville and is a father to five children. Recognizing that youth in his community need more structured activities, he organizes sports teams for children from Mechanicsville and other neighborhoods. He is constantly raising money to pay for uniforms and shoes parents cannot afford. He is active in the Mechanicsville Community Association, including its hats-and-gloves drive, annual Homecoming, and the JaJuan Latham Memorial Wall in Danny Mayfield Park. Nominated by Mechanicsville Community Association.

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