



Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 10, No. 13 – Tuesday, April 04, 2017

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Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhoods to report news important to Knoxville's residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-4382. News deadline: 5 p.m. Mondays.

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1. Cleanup Day Planned for Sutherland Avenue Neighborhood

Residents of the mobile home park on Sutherland Avenue are holding what may be their first community cleanup day on Saturday, April 8, from 1-4 p.m.

The event was inspired by the Neighborhood Working Group on Blighted Properties (NWG), which is composed of neighborhood representatives who meet with city officials each month to discuss city policies and individual blighted properties.

Several members of that group, including neighborhood representatives and city officials, attended a national anti-blight conference last fall and came back with ideas for community improvement projects that NWG might take on.

The Sutherland Avenue neighborhood was suggested by Jay Price of the Marble City Neighborhood Association, located north of Sutherland between Third Creek and Liberty Street.

The planning for this event demonstrates how partnerships can form naturally from connections, needs, and overlapping missions. Price's children attend West View Elementary, one of the Great Schools Partnership (GSP) community schools. He mentioned the cleanup idea to Susan Martin, the GSP resource coordinator for West View, who was already thinking about the mobile home neighborhood and who has

handled much of the logistical work for the cleanup day. This included reserving a courtesy dumpster from the City of Knoxville's Public Service Department.

One of Price's neighbors, Matt Dean, is the coordinator for Emerald Youth Foundation's Just Lead program at Laurel Church of Christ on Kingston Pike. Dean had already been working with youth in the mobile home neighborhood.

At the March 11 Neighborhood Conference, Price stopped by the Keep Knoxville Beautiful booth, so KKB is providing support as well.

Thus a handful of friendships and acquaintances connected the residents of the mobile home park with the Neighborhood Working Group, Marble City Neighborhood Association, Great Schools Partnership, Keep Knoxville Beautiful, the Just Lead program at Laurel Church of Christ, and various departments of the City of Knoxville --- all working together for the April 8 cleanup event in a Sutherland Avenue neighborhood.

Way cool!

2. Green to Address Zoning Overhaul at Advisory Council

Gerald Green, executive director of the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC), will address the April meeting of the Neighborhood Advisory Council, speaking about the process --- now underway --- to overhaul the City of Knoxville's zoning code.

NAC will meet from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 12, at the Cansler YMCA, 616 Jessamine Street. The meeting is open to the public.

For background on this issue and zoning in general, see article #5 in [last week's issue](#) and [MPC Director Gerald Green's workshop presentation](#) at the March 11 Neighborhood Conference.

NAC, appointed by the Mayor, meets monthly to advise the city on neighborhood issues and provide feedback to the city on new, emerging, or changing neighborhood-related issues.

3. Edgewood Park Plans Safety Saturday

Edgewood Park Neighborhood Association is kicking off a full season of events in Edgewood Park by hosting "Safety Saturday" at the Park from noon to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 15.

Neighbors will honor emergency responders, who will showcase the equipment they use in emergencies, including a fire engine, an ambulance, a police S.W.A.T. vehicle, a police squad car, a bomb disposal robot, and other equipment.

In addition to recognizing first responders, this event "continues our efforts to create a real sense of community in our neighborhood," noted Peter Pallesen, the president of the organization. Michael Duerr, the vice president, added that the event is also meant to foster community unity.

This event is sponsored in part by real estate agent Christina Fisher of Realty Executives. It will be preceded by a large Easter egg hunt sponsored by another organization.

4. Developer to Meet with Neighbors on Housing Plans

The April meeting of the **Lindbergh Forest Neighborhood Association** will include a presentation by John Shepard, vice president of [Elmington Capital Group](#), who will describe his company's proposal for a new housing development in South Knoxville.

The affordable workforce housing complex is to be located at 2712 East Martin Mill Pike. This site is located north of Chapman Highway behind Bojangles restaurant and in the South Waterfront Redevelopment District. The site is located on the edge of the Lindbergh Forest neighborhood.

With approximately 160 units of one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartments, the development will be owned and managed by Elmington Capital, which owns and manages 20,000 apartments in 10 states.

Those interested in the development are invited to the meeting, which will start at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, at Greystone Presbyterian Church, 139 Woodlawn Pike. Park behind the church and enter through the rear doors.

5. Workshop: Assets vs Problems in Neighborhood Development

What happens when a neighborhood organization puts all of its energy into trying to solve the neighborhood's problems --- instead of building on the neighborhood's assets?

This question will be explored at the next installment of "Building Strong Neighborhood Organizations," a monthly workshop series sponsored by the Office of Neighborhoods. Participants will also work on identifying assets and how they can be used to further a neighborhood group's mission.

The session will be held Thursday, April 13, at the City of Knoxville's new Public Works building, 3131 Morris Avenue at the corner of Morris and Lorraine Street. This is located south of Middlebrook Pike and east of Liberty Street. Park across Morris Street from the building and enter through the main entrance on the left side of the building. [Here is the Google Maps link.](#)

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. The session begins at 6 p.m. and ends at 8 p.m. Bring your own water. If you like, bring your own snack --- or snacks to share. If you will be attending for the first time, please RSVP to David Massey at 215-3232 or dmassey@knoxvilletn.gov.

6. CTV Video Features Neighborhood Conference

Community Television of Knoxville (CTV) filmed parts of the March 11 Neighborhood Conference and produced a video highlighting seven of the 85 information booths at the gathering.

CTV conducted interviews with staff of the City and County Solid Waste offices, Keep Knoxville Beautiful, CAC's Volunteer Assisted Transportation Program, Nourish Knoxville, University Assisted Community Schools, and Knoxville Community Development Corp.'s Manor at Northgate. [See the video.](#)

7. Showcase Your Neighborhood on CTV's Radio Channel

Community Television of Knoxville ([CTV](#)) is offering Knoxville's neighborhood groups a unique way to showcase their neighborhoods and neighborhood organizations with an audio recording that can appear on the organization's website as well as www.radioknox.org, a CTV project.

"We know that your organization takes great pride in your neighborhood," CTV's Kevin Jeske said in a recent message to neighborhood groups. "So, we would like to help you share that pride by producing a 30-minute audio program to air on our channel and to make available on demand at our web site."

The finished program features extracts of a recorded conversation with one or two neighbors about the neighborhood and the neighborhood organization. There is no charge for the program, which is called "Neighborhood Textures."

Interviews with Molly Gilbert, president of **Lake Forest Neighborhood Association** in South Knoxville, and Donna Downen, president of the **Glenview Homeowners Association** in Northwest Knoxville, are already posted at www.radioknox.org.

If you would like to schedule a recording session, contact Jeske at 865-215-4352 or kevin@ctvknox.org. The recording session can occur in your neighborhood or at CTV's studios at 808 State Street.

During the audio recording session, Jeske would like to discuss such things as:

- *** History pertaining to the origin of your neighborhood
- *** Major changes that have occurred over the years
- *** Unique features or characteristics of your neighborhood
- *** Fun events you hold in your neighborhood
- *** Reasons why people love living in your neighborhood
- *** Anything else you would like to say about your neighborhood

With background music and other special effects, the finished piece will be about 30 minutes long. You can obtain a CD of the recording before it is posted online, and RadioKnox can make it available for use on your organization's website.

CTV is a nonprofit organization that has provided local cable television programming for nearly 42 years. This includes programs developed from scratch by local residents and community groups, as well as live recordings of many of the public meetings of city and county government. CTV also runs a community calendar between programs.

"Unlike commercial cable channels," Jeske notes, "our mission has always been to assist community residents in telling their stories by helping them create TV programs that inform and inspire their neighbors."

8. Neighborhoods: Claim Your History

“Each neighborhood has its own unique history. That history can go a long way in creating community pride, coherence, and attractiveness to newcomers.”

Those are the words of local historian Jack Neely, executive director of the [Knoxville History Project](#) (KHP), which fielded an information booth at last month’s Neighborhood Conference.

In case you missed the booth, Neely and KHP can help neighborhood groups answer questions about who founded the neighborhood, who or what a street is named for, and the people who lived in the neighborhood in the past.

“KHP can provide researched narrative histories of individual neighborhoods, individual streets, and individual homes,” according to a flyer that Neely distributed at the conference. “We can also provide talks for any group about neighborhoods and how they fit into Knoxville’s municipal and architectural history. In several cases, KHP can provide walking tours of older neighborhoods.”

Easy-to-research questions may be answered free of charge. More elaborate research projects will require a fee, but the cost is reasonable and potentially could be covered by a Neighborhood Small Grant (provided by the Office of Neighborhoods) if neighbors contribute to the effort in some way.

For example, some groups have drawn on the talents and interests of young people to interview old-timers in the neighborhood. This is a great way to involve young people, as well as honor the knowledge of older neighbors.

KHP is an educational nonprofit organization which is the sole “member” of another stand-alone nonprofit, The Knoxville Mercury. All of the Mercury’s profits go to the support of KHP. Neely has authored weekly columns on Knoxville history in the Mercury and the former Metro Pulse for many years, and is the author of ten books on Knoxville’s history.

To begin exploring your neighborhood history, contact Neely at 865-337-7723 or jack@knoxhistoryproject.org. Stay tuned to this newsletter for information about the next cycle of the Neighborhood Small Grants Program coming up later this spring.

9. Learn about Trees, Become a Volunteer Forester

The nonprofit organization Trees Knoxville --- working with the City of Knoxville --- has developed a 5-week training program for individuals who wish to assist and lead volunteers in upcoming tree programs.

“This is a great opportunity for neighborhood members throughout the City who are looking to become tree stewards in their community,” noted Kasey Krouse, the City’s urban forester.

The program will take place from 6-9 p.m. on Monday evenings, starting April 24 and running through May 22, at different locations throughout the City such as Ijams Nature Center and Knoxville Botanical Gardens.

Sessions will be led by green industry professionals and University of Tennessee experts. The classes will include an introduction to Knoxville's urban forest, proper tree selection and planting, the science and art of pruning, tree health care, and invasive species awareness. [See a detail course outline.](#)

The cost is just \$50 for over 15 hours of education and learning. Each class will include on-site tours or demonstrations. This course will be limited to 40 persons. To register, [sign up here.](#)

In addition to learning a wealth of tree knowledge and becoming more familiar with Knoxville's urban forest, participants will obtain a certification as a Volunteer Forester and have the opportunity to lead volunteers in future events and arrange tree-related events in their own community.

Questions can be answered through Trees Knoxville at treesknoxville@gmail.com or 865-356-0470. Also, visit the Tree Knoxville website at www.treesknoxville.org.

10. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar (clickable to online calendar)

Call 215-4382 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in [this Google calendar.](#)

If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to attend a City of Knoxville public meeting, please contact Stephanie Brewer Cook at scook@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-2034 no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. For an English interpreter, contact the City Law Department at 865-215-2050.

Other Calendars

Here are several other online calendars that cover events outside of the neighborhood realm:

- [Arts & Culture Alliance](#) (There's More to Knoxville)
- [Arts & Fine Crafts Center Classes](#) (City of Knoxville)
- [Birdhouse Community Center](#)
- [City of Knoxville General Calendar](#)
- [Knoxville Mercury](#) (weekly community paper)

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: 5 p.m. Mondays**

**** May be copied and forwarded via neighborhood e-mail lists and newsletters.**

**** See past issues at our Website: <http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/neighborhoods>**

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