

Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 13, No. 37 – Tuesday, October 13, 2020

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Newsletter (PDF version): <http://bit.ly/NeighborhoodAdvisory-2020-10-13>

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Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhoods, 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. National Night Out is Tonight!

Tonight is the night! Today, Tuesday, Oct. 13, neighborhoods across Knoxville will celebrate community-police relationships and show support for our city's first responders by celebrating National Night Out (NNO).

Either by decorating in blue, leaving porch lights on, sending "Thank You" cards, providing snacks, or waving to officers as they drive through, these 19 Knoxville neighborhoods will be celebrating the 37th Annual NNO:

Alison Park Condominiums, Central Ave. / Woodale Dr., Edgewood Park Neighborhood Association, Historic Fourth & Gill Neighborhood Organization, Historic Sutherland Heights Neighborhood Association, Inskip Community Association, Lindbergh Forest Neighborhood Association, Mechanicsville Community Association, Montrose Court Neighborhood Association, Morningside Heights Homeowners Association, Northwest Hills Neighborhood Watch, Old Mechanicsville Neighborhood Interest, Old North Knoxville, Inc., South Haven Neighborhood Association, South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association, Spring Hill Villas Homeowners Association, We Care Neighborhood Watch, Wesley Neighbors Community Association, and West Moody Neighborhood Watch.

NNO is a national annual campaign to promote community-building, police-community partnerships, neighborhood camaraderie, and create safer, more caring communities. NNO provides an opportunity to enhance relationships between neighbors and law enforcement, providing an occasion for the police and community members to interact under positive circumstances.

Traditionally, Knoxville hosts NNO on the first Tuesday of October, however, this year, the event was moved to avoid a conflict with the City Council meeting. COVID-19 restrictions have also impacted the traditional gatherings held for NNO. Still, Knoxville neighborhoods have risen to the occasion by finding fun, creative ways to show support for first responders in physically distant ways.

Show your support for the Knoxville Police Officers and Knoxville Fire Department by participating your group's event, sending in "Thank You" cards, and leaving your porch lights on today!

For more information on NNO, visit the national [website](#).

2. NAC Meets This Week

The [Neighborhood Advisory Council](#) (NAC) meets virtually Wednesday, Oct. 14, at 4:30 p.m., via Zoom.

The topic of discussion is the [Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program](#) with speakers Steve King, Deputy Director of Engineering; Eden Slater, Assistant Neighborhood Coordinator; Zach Roberts, Traffic Operations Engineer; and Cody Gentry, Traffic Operations Engineer. They will explain the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program and how neighborhoods can get involved.

Under this program, the Traffic Engineering Division works with the Fire Department, Police Department, Office of Neighborhoods, and residents to identify traffic problems in residential neighborhoods and seek appropriate solutions.

Join our Zoom Webinar at:

<https://zoom.us/j/91454455049?pwd=dkZTaFVjeE9qUGF5TFJleEM5MzRLQT09>

Passcode: 782148

Or you may phone in with the following number 1-312-626-6799 or 1-646-558-8656

Webinar ID: 914 5445 5049

Passcode: 782148

All are welcome to Zoom in with us. If time allows, attendees will be able to ask questions in the webinar.

If you have any questions, contact Debbie Sharp at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-4382.

3. OON Becomes ONE

Office of Neighborhoods is changing its name to Office of Neighborhood Empowerment! The name change reflects our place in the Community Empowerment department, under the direction of Dr. Charles F. Lomax, Jr., and our team's role in empowering neighborhoods to have a voice at the table.

We will continue to work diligently to inform neighbors of activities and issues affecting them and help neighbors engage with elected officials, area agencies and City departments to answer questions and solve problems. And we'll keep assisting you in matters of safety, engagement, and fun events. Now, the name fits the work.

Plus, we like the acronym. Neighborhoods working with the City are ONE!

If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Sharp at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov 215-4382.

4. Did You Miss The Newsletter?

Did you notice that the newsletter was out of cycle for a couple of months?

There were about 10 weeks where it was difficult to upload everything due to a malware event. During those times, Office of Neighborhoods posted articles one by one on Facebook. Now that our systems are back up and running, each newsletter was recreated for your convenience. See our [website](#) for all older newsletters.

To help get the word out, we post a link each week on our [Facebook Page](#), where you can always find important neighborhood news that does not make the newsletter.

5. Early Voting Begins Tomorrow!

Early voting in Knox County begins Wednesday, Oct. 14, and runs through Thursday, Oct. 29.

There are many benefits to voting early. It is convenient because you can vote at any of the voting locations; on Election Day, you must vote at your precinct. By voting early, you can avoid long lines, which helps reduce the spread of COVID-19. And you can check your civic duty off your to-do list in case Election Day gets hectic.

To learn more, visit [Go Vote! Knoxville](#), where you can also watch a short video about the new voting system.

To view sample ballots and learn more about early voting sites, visit the Knox County Election Commission's website at KnoxVotes.org.

6. Get a REAL ID

The REAL ID Act of 2005 establishes minimum security standards for license issuance and production and prohibits Federal agencies from accepting for certain purposes driver licenses and identification cards from states not meeting the Act's minimum standards. Beginning Oct. 1, 2021, all persons must have a REAL ID license for accessing certain Federal buildings, entering nuclear facilities, and boarding commercial flights within the United States.

Federal law requires that your first application for a REAL ID compliant credential be made in person.

You will need to present the following documents when applying for a REAL ID:

- Proof to establish citizenship or legal presence
- Proof of your full Social Security Number
- Two proofs of Tennessee residency

You should also be prepared to provide documentation of any name changes that may have occurred. This may require presentation of multiple documents.

All documents must be originals or certified. No photocopies will be accepted.

For more, visit the [TN Real ID](#) webpage.

7. Green Switch Match Program Offers Low Cost Renewable Energy

Are you a KUB customer? Did you know that you support renewable energy based on your monthly utility usage?

That's right! KUB customers are now able to sign up to participate in TVA's Green Switch Match pilot program! Green Switch Match supports renewable energy production through solar, wind, and biogas resources by providing KUB residential and commercial electric customers the opportunity to offset their carbon footprint.

For just one cent per kilowatt hour of energy used, Green Switch Match Participants can reduce their carbon footprint more than 8,000 lbs. of CO2 emissions each year. That means the average KUB user can spend less than \$10 more a month to support renewable energy generation based on their own personal energy usage.

Green Switch Match is a Green-e-Energy certified product, utilizing electricity generated from about 70 percent solar, 20 percent wind, and 10 percent biogas resources.

To learn more about Green Switch Match and how you can sign up to reduce your carbon emission, check out the [KUB Green Switch Match website](#).

8. BZA and HZC Meet October 15

The [Historic Zoning Commission](#) will meet on Thursday, Oct. 15 at 8:30 a.m., in the Small Assembly Room, Main floor of the City County Building, 400 Main St.

Certificates of Appropriateness will be awarded to: 1619 Washington Ave.; 2003 Washington Ave.; 1127 Luttrell St.; 1130 Luttrell St.; 1720 Laurel Ave.; 234 E. Oklahoma Ave; 401 E. Oklahoma Ave.

The [Board of Zoning Appeals](#) (BZA) rescheduled meeting will be this Thursday, Oct. 15, at 4 p.m., virtually via Zoom. If you wish to watch this meeting or speak on an agenda item, you can register [here](#).

BZA will consider the following petitions for variance of requirements: 2401 N. Central St.; 6830 Glen Brook Dr.; 6723 Ridgerock Ln.; 820 N. Third Ave.; 5404 Stoneoak Ln.; 1500 Fort Promise Dr.; 1535 Woodbine Ave; 1022 Eleanor St.

The next BZA and HZC meetings will be on Nov. 19.

9. City Plans COVID-19 Safe Christmas in City Activities

While 2020 has led to the cancelation of many anticipated events and activities, one thing it can't cancel is Christmas! The City's annual Christmas in the City celebrations may look a little different this year, but Special Events planners have been hard at work to create a fun list of holiday activities that are both festive and COVID-19 safe.

This year, Christmas in the City will feature several new events, modifications to some season favorites, and just a couple of cancelations. Check out these fun ways to celebrate this physically distant holiday season:

New Events:

- Drive-In at the Midway: On Friday, Nov. 20 and Dec. 4, holiday movies will be broadcast on the big screen for drive-in viewing at Chilhowee Park. Movie titles will be broadcast the first week of Nov. and space is limited; sign up early to secure a spot.
- Knoxville Neighborhood Holiday Trails: Special Events and the Office of Neighborhoods (OON) are teaming up again to create a festive holiday neighborhood-centric trail across Knoxville. Much like the Trails of Red, White, and Blue in July, neighborhoods have the opportunity to sign up, choose which streets they'd like to decorate, and appear on a map of participating groups. Knoxville residents will be able to look at the map and take a tour around the city, seeing the neighborhoods and all the holiday decorations!

If your neighborhood is interested in participating in the Holiday Trails, contact the OON's Eden Slater at eslater@knoxvilletn.gov.

Modified Events:

- Downtown Decorations: Starting Monday, Nov. 23, downtown and Krutch Park will be decked out, including the annual giant Christmas Tree in the park.
- Holiday Skating Rink: The skating rink will relocate this year from Market Square to the Civic Coliseum to allow for social distancing. Skating will begin on Friday, Dec. 11; visit [Holidays on Ice](#) for the full schedule.
- Peppermint Trail: New peppermint themed lighting will twinkle throughout Market Square and participating downtown businesses and restaurants will showcase special decorations, provide special menu items, and deck their shelves with special treats.

Canceled Events:

- Celebration of Lights: Unfortunately, this year, the Celebration of Lights will not be held on Nov. 27.
- Christmas in Chilhowee and the WIVK Christmas Parade: Neither will be held due to the large crowds often present at both events.

Come out, bring your family, and participate in this year's fun and safe holiday events! For more information, visit [Christmas in the City](#).

Remember, if your neighborhood, street, apartment complex, etc. plans to decorate for the Neighborhood Holiday trails, make sure to register by contacting eslater@knoxvilleth.gov!

10. Trees Knoxville Holds Two Webinars

Trees Knoxville plans to hold two webinars, one today, Oct. 13, at 6 p.m. and the other next week, Oct. 19, at 7 p.m.

Today's webinar addresses the topic "Why Trees Change Colors and How to Get That Color in Your Landscape." Dr. Paul Ries from the UT Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries Department will be the presenter, and you can register for the event [here](#).

The webinar on Oct. 19 will be on the topic of "Best Management Practices for Selecting, Planting, and Establishing New Trees." Knox County UT Extension Agent Lee Rumble will discuss why we love and utilize trees in our urban environments, initial considerations that should be made prior to planting, the best time of year to plant, and how to properly select, install, and establish healthy nursery stock that will thrive well into the future.

You can register for this event [here](#).

11. Bike Walk Knoxville Hosts Walk with Elected Officials

[Bike Walk Knoxville](#) will host a walk with Elected Officials. All are welcome to join City Council members and City staff to learn more.

The event will be on Tuesday, Oct. 27 at 5:30 pm. Everyone will meet at the Tyson Park south parking lot, by the gazebos and playground, and walk a 2-mile loop around the Tyson Park area.

Everyone is encouraged to practice physical distancing and wear a mask.

12. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar (click link for online calendar)

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

If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation 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 before the meeting you wish to attend. For an interpreter, contact Title VI Coordinator Tatia M. Harris at 215-2831.

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](#)

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 215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.*