

The Neighborly Notice - Vol. 16, No. 26 - Tuesday, July 18, 2023

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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 neighborhoodrelated 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

1. Fun for All at The Neighborhood Resource Fair

The upcoming Neighborhood Resource Fair, which will take place on Saturday, Aug. 12, from 8 a.m. until 12 noon, at the Jacob Building in Chilhowee Park, 401 Lakeside St., will be filled with fun activities for the entire family!

More than 80 governmental agencies and departments, nonprofit organizations, and community groups will be on site with information about their programs, and some will even have exciting activities in which neighbors can participate. If you are an animal lover, you are in luck! Zoo Knoxville will be bringing special animals to the event to educate and engage with attendees, and Muse Knoxville will be in attendance, providing a hands-on exhibit for youth attendees.

The City may even have some cool equipment for kids and adults to view.

Door prizes will be drawn hourly during the fair. Attendees who <u>register</u> by Monday, Aug. 7, will have more opportunities to win a prize during the hourly drawings.

In addition to all of the exciting things mentioned above, each attendee will receive two food tickets to use at the Jacob Building concession stand during the event.

If you have a question about booths, please contact Hayley Howard at <u>hhoward@knoxvilletn.gov</u>. If you need assistance registering via phone, please call 865-215-3232.

2. ONE Announces Annual Wiffleball Tournament

Save the Date: the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment (ONE) is excited to announce that the Sixth Annual Neighborhood Wiffleball Tournament will take place on Saturday, Sept. 30, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at Caswell Park, 570 Winona St.

If your neighborhood is interested in participating this year, please reach out to Debbie Sharp at <u>dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov</u>.

We cannot wait to see you on the field for some friendly neighborhood competition!

Former tournament winners are:

- 2022 Westwood Homeowners Association
- 2021 Oakwood Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association
- 2019 Oakwood Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association
- 2018 Westwood Homeowners Association
- 2017 Westwood Homeowners Association

3. City Accepting Neighborhood Advisory Council Applications

The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment is now accepting applications for the <u>Neighborhood Advisory Council</u> (NAC).

Have you ever wondered how you and your neighbors can better engage with the City of Knoxville, its offices and services? Are you an advocate for your neighborhood...and neighborhoods in general? Would you like to learn more about how city government works? Do you enjoy discussing public policy, particularly concerning neighborhoods? Would you like to work with other neighborhood leaders on neighborhood issues?

If you answered YES to these questions, consider applying!

The NAC meets at 4:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month (except July and December). We ask that applicants commit to attending these meetings, missing only when necessary.

NAC consists of neighborhood leaders and advocates who occupy 15 seats – two in each of the six City Council districts and three at-large members. Terms are set for three years, and members may serve up to two full terms (six years). Members wishing to serve a second three-year term must reapply.

The following seats are currently open:

- Seat 2-B (Alanna McKissack)
- Seat 3-A (Vacant)
- Seat 4-B (Brent Waugh)
- Seat 5-A (Philip Hipps)
- Seat 6-A (Vacant)
- At-Large Seat C (Emma Ellis-Cosigua)

To be appointed by the Mayor to a numbered seat, you must live in that City Council district. For example, the person appointed to Seat 2-A must be a resident in the Second Council district. These positions run January 2024 through December 2026. The At-Large candidate may live anywhere within the city.

To view City Council district boundaries, visit <u>KGIS's website</u> and then click on Maps, Political District Maps, and City Council. You can also input your own address to find out which political districts you live in.

If you are interested in serving, please fill out and submit an application, located <u>here</u>, and return it to Debbie Sharp at <u>dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov</u>. You can also mail the application to Office of Neighborhood Empowerment, P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville TN, 37901.

Applications are due by Friday, Aug. 25, at 4:30 p.m.

Call the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment at 865-215-3232 to have a hard copy mailed to you, or if you would like more information about the appointments.

4. Historic Zoning Commission Meets Thursday

The Historic Zoning Commission will meet this Thursday, July 20, at 8:30 a.m. in the Small Assembly Room in the City County Building, 400 Main St.

Properties being addressed at this meeting will include 1202 Luttrell St. and 424 E. Oklahoma Ave.

If either of these properties are in your neighborhood, you may wish to attend in order to speak to any issues or concerns there may be.

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 <u>titlevi@knoxvilletn.gov</u> or 865-215-3100. For disability accommodations, contact City ADA Coordinator Stephanie Brewer Cook at <u>scook@knoxvilletn.gov</u> or 865-215-2034 at least 72 hours before the meeting.

5. KPD West District Hosts Command Forum

West Knoxville neighbors are invited to the Knoxville Police Department's West District Commander Forum on Wednesday, July 26, at 6-7 p.m. at the Public Works Service Center, 3131 Morris Ave.

The boundaries of KPD's West District are roughly I-275 to the east and Knoxville city limits to the west and north. You can review the Field Operation District Beat Map <u>here</u>.

At the meeting, West District Commander John Kiely and his support staff will discuss ongoing crime trends in the district, crime-prevention tips, and answer questions and address the concerns of residents.

We hope to see folks there.

RSVP and invite your neighbors using the Facebook event page here.

6. Candidates for the 2023 City Election

City of Knoxville Elections are coming up, with the Primary Election Day on Tuesday, Aug. 29, and General Election Day on Nov. 7.

City elections are held in odd-numbered years. All terms of office are 4 years. Offices and candidates on the 2023 ballot are:

- City Mayor: Indya Kincannon, incumbent; Constance Every, R.C. Lawhorn, Jeff Talman
- City Council At-Large, Seat A: Lynne Fugate, incumbent; Cameron Brooks, Darin Worsham
- City Council At-Large, Seat B: Debbie Helsley, R. Bentley Marlow
- City Council At-Large, Seat C: Amelia Parker, incumbent; Matthew Best, Tim Hill
- City Council, District 5: Charles Thomas, unopposed
- Municipal Judge: John Rosson Jr. (incumbent); Andrew Beamer, Tyler Caviness, Mary Ward

2023 Primary Election Schedule:

- Monday, July 31, 2023 Final day to register to vote before election
- Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2023 First day of Early Voting period
- Tuesday, Aug. 22, 2023 Final day to request an absentee ballot
- Thursday, Aug. 24, 2023 Final day of Early Voting period
- Tuesday, Aug. 29, 2023 Election Day

Don't forget to register to vote! You have two weeks – and you can register online!

For more information, including links to candidates' website and social media accounts, and listings of public candidate forums, visit <u>GoVoteKnoxville.com</u>.

7. Candidate Events Scheduled for Knoxville Primary Elections

The League of Women Voters of Knoxville/Knox County has scheduled two candidate forums for the Knoxville City Primary Election cycle this summer.

The forum for candidates for Knoxville City Mayor will take place on Tuesday, Aug. 1, from 6:30-8 p.m., at the Knoxville Public Works Service Center, located at 3131 Morris Ave.

The forum for candidates for Knoxville City Council At-Large Seats A, B, and C, will take place on Monday, Aug. 7, from 6:30-8 p.m., in the Main Auditorium of West High School, located at 3300 Sutherland Ave.

The forums will be live-streamed on the <u>Facebook page of the League of Women</u> <u>Voters of Knoxville/Knox County</u> and archived for later viewing.

Early voting in the primary runs from Wednesday, Aug. 9, through Thursday, Aug. 24, and Election Day is Tuesday, Aug. 29.

8. Keep Knoxville Beautiful Seeks Feedback

Keep Knoxville Beautiful (KKB) wants your input. What do you know about their organization? How familiar are you with their programs? They would like to know how

they can better align their efforts in reaching community members and fulfilling their mission.

If you are willing, please consider taking this quick survey.

9. Attorney General Citizens Academy Deadline Approaching

Are you interested in learning more about the criminal justice system? The District Attorney General's Office is now accepting applications from residents wishing to participate in the Citizens Academy.

Applicants must live or work in Knox County, be at least 18 years old, and agree to a background check.

The Citizens Academy is held in the fall and offers a behind-the-scenes look at the criminal justice system. Participants learn about the specific roles of law enforcement officers, attorneys, judges, and jurors, while being exposed to the inner workings and complexities involved in prosecution. Citizens can practice what they have learned by participating in a mock trial, arguing a criminal case as prosecutors. In addition to the mock trial, assistant district attorneys present on a wide range of topics.

The deadline to submit an <u>application</u> is this Friday, July 21.

For more information, please contact Emily Scheuneman at 865-215-3736 or <u>emily.scheuneman@knoxcounty.org</u>.

10. KAT Reimagined Recommended Network Completed

The KAT Reimagined project is a system-wide reimagining of the Knoxville Area Transit bus network: where the buses go, and how often. Recently, KAT Reimagined has been developing a plan to improve transit services in Knoxville based on public input.

The board voted to present the public with a cost-neutral version of the route network which incorporates a new bus route focused on seniors.

The recommended network incorporates several changes based on public feedback received during the last public engagement process, which include:

- The addition of a new Route 23 Millertown Pike that would also serve O'Connor Senior Center, in addition to Broadway Towers, Washington Pike, and Wal Mart east.
- Route changes to better serve Austin-East High School, Inskip Pool, and Main St.
- Temporary route adjustments until pedestrian infrastructure and traffic signal issues can be resolved, namely on Division St. and Clinton Hwy. Once these infrastructure changes occur, the route will return to the original draft network routing.

While incorporating these changes, the recommended network plan increases frequencies to 15-minute service along Cumberland and Sutherland avenues to Bearden, Magnolia Ave., and from downtown out to the Food City on Western Ave. Sunday service improves dramatically, with more routes and better frequencies on most routes – all while remaining cost neutral.

The plan improves 45-minute job access by 16% for overall residents, 20% for low-income residents, and 24% for residents of color.

For more information about the recommended network, visit <u>www.KATreimagined.com</u>.

The board will hold a public hearing on the recommended bus network on Thursday, July 27, at 3 p.m. in the City County Building's Main Assembly Room, 400 Main St.

11. How To Save Money During Hot Months

As the hotter weather arrives, KUB wants customers to know how to manage their utility usage and stay cool. The following tips can help save money and reduce excessive use of utilities.

- Set thermostats as high as comfortably possible. KUB recommends a setting of 78 in the summer. Each degree of change can save approximately 3 percent on a heating or cooling bill.
- Service HVAC units and change filters per manufacturer recommendations.
- When on vacation, adjust thermostats a few degrees when away from home.
- Smart and programmable thermostats can also schedule cooling while people are home.
- Use fans to assist in cooling.
- Close blinds and curtains during the day on east- and west-facing windows to help prevent the sun from warming the inside of your home.
- Use appliances such as washing machines, dryers, and dishwashers during nonpeak hours, like after sunset, and use them with full loads.
- Operate stoves during the cooler parts of the day.
- Set washing machines to use cold water cycles.
- Turn off unnecessary lights in your home, as well as decorative or accent lighting around your home.
- Water lawns in the morning, instead of the hottest part of the day. Water lawns no more than twice a week.
- Raise the blade on your lawn mower to at least three inches. Closely cut grass makes the roots work harder and requires more water.
- Switch to taking a cool shower in the evening rather than a hot shower in the morning.

KUB works to promote sustainability in all facets of its operation, while supporting and providing programs for its customers to do the same. Over many years, KUB has been recognized for leadership in environmental stewardship, with investments in green energy, alternative fuels, and more efficient operations, and for participating in and giving back to the communities they serve.

Learn more about KUB's environmental stewardship efforts through the 2022 Environment, Social & Governance Report. Weatherization information and moneysaving energy tips are available on the KUB website. KUB also offers energy and water saving workshops and the Time of Use Electric Rate Program – a lower rate for off-peak energy use. The TVA Home Uplift program also provides weatherization funds for lowincome families. Call 888-986-7262 or email <u>support@mytva.com</u> for information on the Home Uplift program.

12. 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 <u>here</u>.

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.