



**Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 10, No. 16 – Tuesday, April 25, 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. Two Neighborhood Groups Elect Officers**

Historic Sutherland Heights Neighborhood Association and Old Mechanicsville Neighborhood Interest Inc. (OMNI) elected officers recently.

At its February meeting, Historic Sutherland Heights elected Joe Finucane, president, replacing John Yates; Phillip Scruggs, vice president, replacing Samantha Neas; Jessica Comer, secretary, replacing Joe Finucane; and John Yates, treasurer, replacing Victoria Drew. The neighborhood is located between Third Creek and Sutherland Avenue just east of West High School.

Omni’s officers for the coming year are Dustin McGhee, president; Carol Johnson, vice president; Dan McGehee, secretary; and Mattie Smith, treasurer.

Report your election results and other neighborhood news in this newsletter. Contact Debbie Sharp at 215-4382 or [dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov).

## **2. Holston Hills to Hold Garden Sale**

The Historic Holston Hills Community Club will hold its Second Annual Garden Sale from 9 a.m.-12 noon Saturday, May 6, in the Holston Hills Community Park, located at Chilhowee Drive and Holston Hills Road.

The sale will feature many varieties of plants, baked goods, art, and unusual yard/garden items for sale. All proceeds from the sale go for the upkeep of and improvement to the park. For more, contact Millie Ward at [mmward@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mmward@sbcglobal.net) or 805-551-6805.

## **3. Dow Seeks Applications for \$20,000 Grant**

Dow Chemical Company's Knoxville Operations is encouraging nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations within Knox County to apply for the Dow Gives Community Grant.

A \$20,000 grant will be awarded to a project that will create a visible, long-term, sustainable benefit for residents preferably within a three-mile radius of Dow Knoxville Operations.

Applications can be submitted beginning on Monday, May 1, and ending on Friday, June 16. If your neighborhood organization is not tax-exempt under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, you will need to secure a fiscal sponsor well before applying.

Applications are accepted only online at [www.dow.com/tennessee](http://www.dow.com/tennessee). No paper applications will be accepted. Here's a tip: Print the application and get the information requested together before starting the online application. This will help you from having to start and stop to retrieve the needed information.

Over the last 17 years, the Dow Gives Program has awarded \$460,000 to organizations that have contributed to the success of the community. At least five neighborhood groups have won --- West View Community Action Group in 2002, Old Mechanicsville Neighborhood Interest in 2003, Historic Fort Sanders Neighborhood Association in 2004 (James Agee Park), Old North Knoxville in 2006, and South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association (with South Doyle Middle School) in 2012. [See details.](#)

## **4. "Rent Smart" Workshop to Explain Tenant Rights and Responsibilities**

If you rent a house or apartment and wonder if you are being treated fairly by your landlord, an upcoming workshop can help you decide what to do and who to call for assistance.

All tenants have rights regarding the property they wish to rent or are renting. And they also have responsibilities. "Rent Smart" --- a tenant rights workshop --- will cover the ins and outs of the landlord-tenant relationship.

Sponsored jointly by the City of Knoxville's [Office of Neighborhoods](#) and the [Parkridge Community Organization](#), the workshop will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on

Tuesday, May 2, at O'Connor Senior Center, 611 Winona St. Refreshments will be served.

Please reserve your spot in this workshop by calling 215-3077. Parents may use this number to request child care. Leave your name and number, please.

Help promote this workshop. [See the flyer](#). The speakers for this workshop are:

\*\*\* Christina Magrans-Tillery is a staff attorney with [Legal Aid of East Tennessee](#), which represents tenants whose landlords have violated the state's Landlord Tenant Act.

\*\*\* Tracey Berry and Cheri Hollifield work for the City of Knoxville's [Neighborhood Codes Enforcement Office](#), which enforces the City's housing code.

\*\*\* Saadia Williams, a staff member at the [Tennessee Human Rights Commission](#), works on behalf of clients who have been discriminated against with regard to housing.

\*\*\* Jackie Kittrell and Tim Howell represent the [Community Mediation Center](#), which (among other activities) helps mediate disputes between tenants and landlords.

\*\*\* Mark Rigsby, the assistant community development administrator for the City's [Community Development Department](#), will serve as moderator.

## **5. "Community Sparks" Workshop: Neighborhood Project Ideas**

Does your neighborhood organization have a community project in mind, but don't know where to start? Do you see needs and opportunities in your neighborhood, but just aren't sure how to come up with workable project ideas?

Join the Office of Neighborhoods from 10 a.m.-12 noon on Saturday, May 13, for its "Community Sparks" workshop at the Public Works Building, 3131 Morris Avenue.

At this workshop, participants will hear from neighborhood groups that have carried out projects using funds from the Neighborhood Small Grants Program. There will also be a brainstorming session to generate as many ideas as possible for neighborhood projects and programs. You can also get tips on applying for grants.

To register, contact Debbie Sharp at [dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov) or 215-4382.

## **6. Dates Set for Neighborhood Small Grants Funding Cycle**

This is a heads up about the 2018 round of grant making under the Neighborhood Small Grants Program (NSGP), which is administered by the Office of Neighborhoods.

The 2018 guidelines and application will be issued next month, and funding applications will be due in July. Site visits will take place in August, and tentative awards will be announced in September, followed by City Council action. Contracts and checks will be issued before year end for projects beginning in January or later.

**Save the Date:** In order to submit an application for funding, a city neighborhood group must send at least one representative to a mandatory pre-application workshop in June. There are two dates to choose from:

\*\*\* Saturday, June 3, 10 a.m.-12 noon, Public Works Building, 3131 Morris Avenue.

\*\*\* Thursday, June 15, 6 p.m.-8 p.m., place to be announced.

In the workshop, the Office of Neighborhoods will explain the application guidelines and the application process. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers. Even if you are not sure if your neighborhood will apply, it is good to still send a representative to ensure that you will be able to apply when the time comes, if your neighborhood chooses to do so. Please mark your calendars now for one of these workshops.

For more, see the [NSGP web page](#). To register for one of the mandatory workshops or to learn more, contact Debbie Sharp at [dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov) or 215-4382.

## **7. Five Points Up Publishes Second Edition of Resource Guide**

[Five Points Up](#), in partnership with the Knox County Health Department, has just published the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Five Points Community Resource Guide.

This guide's goal is to inform community members and organizations about all the resources and services in East Knoxville. The guide's second goal is to make it easier for community members to use the resources and services in their area.

This version was updated last month. Five Points Up plans on updating and publishing a new version of the resource guide once a year. View the guide online [here](#). To print the guide, download this printable version [here](#).

Call 865-215-5170 to request hard copies of the resource guide for yourself, your community or neighborhood group, business, faith organization or other organization.

## **8. This Weekend: Get Rid of Your Unwanted Medications – Safely**

Area residents once again have an opportunity to get rid of unwanted medications so they do not fall into the wrong hands or harm the environment.

Dispose of old or unwanted prescription medications or over-the-counter medicines from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, April 28, and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 29, at the Healthy Living Expo at the Knoxville Convention Center or Food City, 7608 Mountain Grove Dr. in South Knoxville.

Medicines can be dropped off at these locations only during these events. At all other times, all city and county residents can bring old or unused medicines to the Knoxville Police Department Safety Building at 800 Howard Baker Jr. Ave. The Safety Building is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

For more, visit <http://www.medicationcollection.org>.

Sponsors include the Knoxville Police Department, the city and county Solid Waste Offices, the Knox County Health Department, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, UT Academy of Student Pharmacists, KUB, and the Metropolitan Drug Coalition.

### **9. BBBS Seeks 100 Mentors in 100 Days**

Big Brothers, Big Sisters (BBBS) on May 1 is starting a 100-day campaign to recruit 100 new Mentors.

At-risk youth involved in the BBBS program are 98% more likely to graduate high school on time, 90% more likely to enroll in college, 81% more likely to have higher self-esteem, and 71% more likely to have improved academic performance than youth without such support.

There are several ways to volunteer your time. Some volunteer opportunities are one hour per month, others are a bit more. But all can be doing fun activities with youth, such as playing basketball, hiking, reading, and going to museums.

To learn more about being a mentor, please check out the [BBBS website](#) or call BBBS at 865-523-2179. Or contact Vivian Gwinn for more information at 243-8093 or [vgwinn@tennesseebig.org](mailto:vgwinn@tennesseebig.org).

### **10. Knoxville SOUP to Consider Four Projects**

The next edition of Knoxville SOUP, the micro-funding event sponsored by the South Knoxville Alliance of Businesses and Professionals, will be held at 6 p.m. this Thursday, April 27, at Dara's Garden, 2637 Maryville Pike.

For a suggested donation of \$5.00 at the door, you get soup, salad, and a vote for your favorite project. Four projects will be presented during dinner, and one will walk away with the donations. See Knoxville SOUP's [webpage](#) for more detail. Or contact 406-0733 or [contact@KnoxvilleSOUP.org](mailto:contact@KnoxvilleSOUP.org).

### **11. League Announces Organizing Workshop**

The League of Women Voters of Knoxville and Knox County is bringing back its Citizens Academy --- this time with a "Boot Camp on Organizing."

The class is aimed at those who wish to learn how to organize for change and how to start or "rev up" organizations that can influence critical local or national issues.

All attendees must register. Sessions will take place over three consecutive Tuesday nights starting May 2, from 6-8:30 p.m. Visit [www.lwvknoxville.org](http://www.lwvknoxville.org) to register and find out more information. For more on the League itself, contact the president, Rynn Dupes, at [cadupes@gmail.com](mailto:cadupes@gmail.com) or (865) 803-8763.

## **12. 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](mailto: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>*

*\*\* Don't have Internet access? Call 215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.*