



Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 10, No. 28 – Tuesday, August 1, 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. Cumberland Estates to Discuss New Sidewalk

Cumberland Estates West Neighborhood Watch will hold a neighborhood-wide meeting at 6 p.m. this coming Thursday, Aug. 3, at the Cumberland Estates Recreation Center at 4529 Silverhill Drive.

Amanda Opolski, a member of the City of Knoxville's Engineering Department, will be on hand to discuss the design of the sidewalk that the City intends to build along 1,150 linear feet of Palmetto Road between Western Avenue and Landon Drive.

The Palmetto project is one of five new sidewalks the City will build this fiscal year. The others are on Atlantic Avenue, Buffat Mill Road, Gleason Drive, and Wilson Ave. [See details](#). The City maintains a list of ongoing and upcoming capital improvement projects managed by the City's Engineering Department on [this web page](#).

For more on the neighborhood watch, contact Coordinator [Anna Compton](#) at 599-0724.

2. Council to Shorten Schedule on Short-Term Rentals

The short-term rental ordinance will go back to City Council in September rather than on Oct. 24 as originally envisioned in July when Council postponed the controversial ordinance for 90 days. City Council workshops on the ordinance will still take place as planned.

Vice-Mayor Duane Grieve issued a notice late last week explaining why the ordinance needs to be considered earlier than planned. "It has come to our attention that in order

for the Metropolitan Planning Commission to have time to consider any changes that we might make to the ordinance, we will need to bring the issue back to Council in September rather than October,” he stated.

A resolution on the Aug. 1 City Council agenda would revoke the 90-day postponement and allow Council to put the matter on the agenda at a September meeting. “We will not be discussing the substance of the short-term rental issue at the Aug. 1 meeting, just our timetable,” he added.

Moving the postponement date to September to allow for MPC consideration will help City Council keep its promise to vote on the measure before five of the current nine members leave office in December.

[See the proposed ordinance](#) drafted by City staff. Here is the workshop schedule:

*** Thursday, August 3, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. in the Small Assembly Room, City County Building, 400 Main Street.

*** Thursday, August 10, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. at the Public Works Complex, 3131 Morris Avenue, located near Lorraine Street just south of Middlebrook Pike and the West View neighborhood.

To see today’s Council agenda, [see this web page](#).

3. Fourth & Gill Mourns Loss of Barbara Simpson

Current and former residents of the Fourth & Gill neighborhood joined over 200 other people at Click Funeral Home this past weekend to mourn the passing of Barbara Simpson, a longtime neighborhood advocate and board member of the Fourth & Gill Neighborhood Organization.

Barbara died last week after a battle with pancreatic cancer. [See the obituary](#).

An independent Certified Public Accountant, Barbara moved into Fourth & Gill in the early 1980s. She exerted a constant and very vocal engagement with neighborhood work, public issues, and political campaigns. A strong advocate for historic preservation, she played important roles in the restoration of at least two homes in Fourth & Gill.

Among many other issues, Barbara was involved in efforts to reroute hazardous waste trucks away from the downtown freeways and to preserve the Fourth & Gill neighborhood from further freeway expansion in the SmartFix 40 project.

In the late 1980s she was a key player in the defeat of a large garbage incinerator that city and county officials had planned for a site on Baxter Avenue. After City Council denied the necessary rezoning for that site, Barbara and others waged a months-long battle against the project until time ran out on the bond issue that would have funded the incinerator. Had the incinerator been built on Baxter, recyclables would have been needed to feed it, garbage trucks would have converged on the area every week day,

and the rejuvenation of Happy Holler and Downtown North might well have been impossible.

Barbara Simpson leaves a legacy of citizen action, and she will be missed.

4. NAC to Learn About Redevelopment and Traffic Calming

The Neighborhood Advisory Council ([NAC](#)) this month will learn about the current projects of the City of Knoxville's Redevelopment Department. [See a list of the projects.](#) In addition, NAC will receive an update on the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program that is planned for launch this fall.

NAC will meet on Wednesday, August 9, from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Cansler YMCA, 616 Jessamine St. With these two subjects, the meeting may go longer than usual. All are welcome.

NAC is a 15-member body of volunteer neighborhood leaders who are appointed by the Mayor to provide advice and feedback to the Administration on neighborhood issues. The group usually meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Learn more on [this web page](#) or contact Debbie Sharp at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-4382.

5. 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](#)

About This Newsletter

- ** This Advisory is produced on most Tuesdays of the year.*
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- ** Deadline for news & calendar items: 5 p.m. Mondays*
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