



Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 10, No. 40 – Tuesday, October 31, 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. Watch for Trick or Treaters Tonight!

Please SLOW DOWN and watch out for children this evening as they take to the streets to trick-or-treat. [Check out these Halloween safety tips from AAA.](#)

2. Map Pinpoints Accidents Involving Pedestrians and Bicyclists

A new interactive map created by the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) shows the location of 1,440 traffic accidents across the region over a 5-year period that involved pedestrians or bicyclists.

The map details factors that contributed to the crashes as well as location trends across the region. Data came from seven area law enforcement agencies. The map allows users to explore information specific to the type of crash, crash factors and an overview of all the data. [See the map here](#) or start at <https://knoxtrans.org>.

Factors that led to crashes include:

- Drivers failing to yield while turning,
- People struck by cars while walking in locations without sidewalks,

- Drivers failing to yield while going straight,
- Bicyclists riding on the sidewalk,
- Pedestrians crossing a street outside of an intersection or marked midblock crossing,
- Bicyclists riding against traffic,
- Drivers striking a bicyclist from behind, and
- Bicyclists riding at night with no lights.

3. Montgomery Village Tenant Association Elects Officers

Montgomery Village Tenant Association has announced its new officer team for the upcoming year, which the team says will be dedicated to expanding the positive impact that the Association already has in the neighborhood.

The new officers are Eric Schnicke, president; Diana Hill, vice president; Amanda Beckner, treasurer; Pamela Jordan, secretary; and Sandy Truszinski, assistant secretary. Currently the organization works with the neighborhood's children by providing after school activities, Sunday Bible study classes in partnership with Vestal United Methodist Church, and school supply events.

Outgoing officers include Ronnie Thompson, who had served as president for several years.

4. RiverHill Gateway to Host Fall Celebration

RiverHill Gateway Neighborhood Association is hosting an inaugural fall celebration to showcase improvements made to the neighborhood in recent years, as well as the attractions that are included within the group's boundaries.

The event will take place from Noon-2 p.m. this Saturday, Nov. 4, at Women's Basketball Hall of Fame at the corner of Hall of Fame Drive and East Hill Avenue.

There will be music, cotton candy, apple cider, food trucks, door prizes, games, and live music by "Outlaw Revival." Visitors can also enjoy free tours of the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame, James White Fort, and Blount Mansion.

Sponsors include the three institutions above along with Carter's Cotton Candy, the Marriott Hotel, Knoxville Ice Bears, Legacy Parks Foundation, and Billy Lush Boards & Brew. For more information, contact Kaye Bultemeier at kayebultemeier@gmail.com or 504-940-8952.

5. From the Desk of Mayor Madeline Rogero

Mayor Madeline Rogero's weekly email newsletter, published on Mondays, features brief news and updates on her activities and perspectives on City events and issues.

[This week's issue](#) covers a tree planting by Sequoyah Hills Elementary students, the upcoming Central Street makeover, a link to photos of last Sunday's Open Streets event

in South Knoxville, and a link to a Knoxville family's Halloween decorations that were featured on "Good Morning America." Also, look for a list of upcoming events.

To receive this email, which is delivered every Monday (except holidays), click this link to subscribe: <http://eepurl.com/cYicMP>. If you ever decide you no longer want to receive the weekly email, you can easily unsubscribe by clicking unsubscribe at the bottom of each email.

6. Early Voting Ends Thursday; Election Next Tuesday

After months of campaigning and surviving a field of 30 candidates, 11 active contenders for five open seats on Knoxville City Council are down to their last full week of asking for votes before next Tuesday's general election. Early voting ends Thursday.

To learn if you are registered, where to vote, and when to vote, call the Knox County Election Commission at 215-2480 or visit www.knoxvotes.org.

Haven't voted and can't decide who to vote for? Visit www.govoteknoxville.com --- a website maintained by the City of Knoxville --- for a list of candidates, their websites and contact information, a map of City Council districts, and other information. View Community TV's videos of the candidates at <http://www.ctvknox.org/>. Various media outlets also have posted candidate interviews on their websites.

All city voters get to vote in all five races. All five incumbents are term limited and were unable to run again. Here are the candidates listed on the ballot:

District 1 (South Knoxville and Fort Sanders), Nick Pavlis, incumbent

** Rebecca Parr

** Stephanie Welch

District 2 (West Knoxville), Duane Grieve, incumbent

** Wayne Chistensen

** Andrew Roberto

District 3 (Northwest Knoxville), Brenda Palmer, incumbent

** James Edward Corcoran

** Seema Singh Perez

District 4 (North and Northeast Knoxville), Nick Della Volpe, incumbent

** Lauren Rider

** Harry Tindell

District 6 (East Knoxville, downtown, and parts of West Knoxville), Daniel Brown, incumbent

** Gwen McKenzie

** Jennifer Montgomery

In addition, Amelia Parker is waging a write-in campaign for the District 4 seat after City Council voted to put Tindell on the ballot to break a tie for second place between Tindell and Parker in the August primary election.

The five winners will take office at a swearing-in ceremony at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 16, in the Large Assembly Room of the City County Building. Their first City Council meeting will be on Tuesday, Dec. 19. They will join four remaining Council members --- Fifth District Councilman Mark Campen and At-Large Councilmen George Wallace, Marshall Stair, and Finbarr Saunders --- all of whom have two more years remaining in their second and final terms.

7. Short-Term Rentals, Historic Overlay Headed to City Council

Having cleared the Metropolitan Planning Commission earlier this month, two hotly contested neighborhood-related issues are headed to Knoxville City Council on Nov. 7. Council meets at 6 p.m. in the Large Assembly Room of the City County Building.

The two items are proposed ordinances --- for regulation of short-term rentals and the expansion of the Edgewood-Park City Historic Overlay District in the Parkridge neighborhood.

The City administration proposed the short-term rental ordinance early this year following several public meetings and opportunities for citizen input. As crafted, the ordinance seeks to balance the many different competing interests involved in the debate over short-term rentals (STR's) of less than 30 days, such as those arranged through online platforms such as Airbnb.

At its last consideration of this measure, City Council on Aug. 29 asked the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) to consider a lengthy list of issues and questions about the ordinance and related matters. MPC staff reviewed the list and ended up recommending no changes other than one minor adjustment suggested by the City's Law Department.

As noted by MPC, comments from the general public can generally be described as 1) those who want tighter restriction on STR's located in residential districts, and 2) those who want lesser restrictions on STR's. MPC's 53-page agenda package contained messages opposing and supporting the existing ordinance from neighborhood groups, along with the staff response to the City Council questions and a copy of the proposed ordinance. [See the agenda item package.](#)

At their Oct. 12 meeting, MPC commissioner voted 11-2 in favor of the STR ordinance, per staff recommendation. Council now must act on the proposal. To pass, ordinances must be approved in two readings at two City Council meetings, unless adopted on emergency.

The historic overlay issue in Parkridge consists of two separate but related items. The first is a [revision](#) to the Edgewood-Park City Historic Overlay Design Guidelines for both the existing district and the targeted expansion area, should it be approved. The second

is the [expansion](#) itself, which would more than double the historic overlay area in Parkridge.

Following approval of the matter by the [Historic Zoning Commission](#), the MPC staff recommended approval of both measures. On Oct. 12, MPC voted 10-3 in favor of both measures, sending them on to City Council.

The **Parkridge Community Organization** requested the overlay expansion last year. The issue has been controversial for a number of reasons, including concerns voiced by some residents that the extra cost of meeting historic guidelines would be out of reach for lower income homeowners and low-margin landlords, thus contributing to gentrification in the neighborhood.

For the Oct. 12 MPC meeting, see the original [agenda package](#), the [draft minutes](#), and the [video of the meeting](#).

8. NAC to Learn about Nuisance Property Law, Injunctions

The November meeting of the **Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC)** will focus on crime-ridden nuisance properties and the state law that enables local authorities to close such operations.

The meeting will be held from 4:30-6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 8, in the community room of the Cansler YMCA, 616 Jessamine Street. All are welcome.

Special guests will be Assistant Attorney General Sean McDermott and two members of the Knoxville Police Department --- Captain Don Jones and Lt. Tony Willis.

Under Tennessee State Law 29-3-101, the Knox County Attorney General's office has worked with local law enforcement over the last several years to identify, investigate, and seek injunctions against criminal enterprises operated from both commercial and residential properties. Often the injunctions are made permanent, and the business that was harboring the criminal activity is closed.

Illegal activities covered by the law include prostitution, unlawful sale of narcotics and other controlled substances, unlawful gambling, and "quarreling, drunkenness, fighting and breaches of the peace."

Two examples of establishments shuttered by this law in recent years include the Bi-Lo Market on Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue and La Rumba in Bearden.

Appointed by the Mayor, NAC is a 15-member body of neighborhood leaders who provide advice and input to the city administration on neighborhood-related issues.

9. Learn How You Can Support Mixed-Use Developments

Active Knox --- the successor to the Walkability Speaker Series that had been sponsored by the Knox County Health Department --- is bringing award-winning

developer Jeff Randolph to Knoxville to discuss how the public can support the creation of successful mixed-use developments at all scales and price points.

Randolph will speak at a free event on Tuesday, Nov. 14, at the Bearden High School Auditorium, 8352 Kingston Pike. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and the program begins at 6 p.m. Please RSVP by visiting [this page](#) or by calling Ellen Zavisca at 215-4014.

He will also make a presentation to the [Recode Knoxville Stakeholder Advisory Committee](#) at 10 a.m. Nov. 15 in the Small Assembly Room at the City County Building. This is a public meeting, and no RSVP is needed.

Randolph is president of The Randolph Group, LLC, a land development company based in Greenville, S.C., that has developed more than 40 residential, urban infill and mixed-used communities throughout the Southeast. In 2010, The Randolph Group was recognized by Southern Living Magazine for their work on the Viola neighborhood in Greenville, deemed one of the 10 Best Comeback Neighborhoods in the country.

Active Knox is supported by 11 partners: AARP, the Metropolitan Planning Commission, Transportation Planning Organization, Knoxville Chamber, Knoxville Association of Realtors, Bike Walk Knoxville, Legacy Parks Foundation, East Tennessee Quality Growth, Knoxville Track Club, UT Department of Public Health, and Tennessee Department of Health.

10. Conference to Focus on Housing Needs

A conference on changing housing needs in the Knoxville region will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 8, at the Hilton Hotel in downtown Knoxville.

The [East Tennessee Regional Leadership Association](#) is hosting the conference in partnership with several other organizations. The deadline for registration --- which costs \$50 per person including lunch --- is this Friday, Nov. 3. To learn more and to register online, [visit this web page](#).

The event will focus on 1) changing regional population and workforce demographics, 2) successful strategies for financing and economic development. 3) housing impact on regional infrastructure systems, 4) housing partnerships, and 5) housing design.

Keynote speakers are Ralph Perry, executive director of the Tennessee Housing Development Agency; Becky Wade, director of the Community Development Dept., City of Knoxville; and TK Davis, professor in the College of Art and Design, University of Tennessee.

11. Impact a Life: Volunteer for Tennessee Achieves

Tennessee Achieves --- the statewide program that provides scholarships and mentoring services to high school and college students who lack sufficient support at home --- is looking for volunteer mentors.

The program provides two years of scholarship funding to attend some colleges in Tennessee. It allows many high school kids the chance to attend college who would otherwise be unable to afford it.

Volunteers provide mentoring, not money. Tennessee Achieves is looking for mentors for 2018. Currently, Knox County has just 408 of the 627 mentors needed to meet student demand for the Class of 2018. Having a college degree is not a requirement to be a mentor. Many students just need additional guidance and encouragement.

Moreover, the training and time investment are not demanding. To learn more and fill out an application, visit <https://tnachieves.org/> and www.tnachieves.org/mentors/apply.

12. Reduce Your KUB Bill

If you are interested in learning how to reduce and manage your utility bill, attend the latest “Savings in the House” workshop at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 8, at CAC, 2247 Western Avenue, in the community room, side B.

Offered by the Alliance to Save Energy (ASE), the workshop is free and lasts one hour. Participants will discover simple ways to reduce their utility bills and learn more about KUB's Advanced Metering. Find out about energy efficiency and weatherization as well.

For a complete schedule of workshops, visit www.savingsinthehouse.com or find ASE on Facebook. You can bring this workshop to your neighborhood meeting. Contact ASE Program Manager Jennifer Alldredge at jalldredge@ase.org or 615-830-1875.

13. 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 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)
- [City of Knoxville General Calendar](#)

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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