

Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 10, No. 46 – Tuesday, December 19, 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. Holiday Break Scheduled for Newsletter and Office

Due to the upcoming holidays, we will not be doing the Neighborhood Advisory for two weeks. Our next Neighborhood Advisory publishes on Jan. 9, 2018.

The Office of Neighborhoods closes on Monday, Dec. 25, Friday, Dec. 29, and Monday, Jan. 1. We are open the rest of the days if you need us.

Those of us in the office wish you a very Happy Holiday season and we will catch up to you in 2018!

2. Cause a Scene for a Good Cause

West Haven Village Neighborhood Association (WHVNA) invites all to Blaze Pizza, 113 North Peters Rd., for a special fundraising event.

The fundraiser takes place Jan. 17, 2018 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The neighborhood organization receives 20% of all dine-in and take-out orders where the flyer is presented. Online orders do not count towards the fundraiser. Participants must present a flyer in order for West Haven Village Neighborhood Association to receive the donation.

This is WHVNA's first fundraiser with Blaze Pizza. The restaurant has just recently begun to dive into fundraisers. Previously WHVNA fundraised with Bojangles but sees the opportunity in diversifying their fundraising sources.

Matt Fields, president of WHVNA, said "Blaze Pizza has in the past offered support for our neighborhood events. So this is a way to give something back to them and them giving back to our [association] at the same time. We would like to see more of our Knoxville neighborhoods work with local businesses to help each other out for a cause."

WHVNA hopes to generate a minimum of \$200 through this fundraiser. For information on fundraising with Blaze Pizza, contact Jeremy Roberts, fundraising coordinator, at 865-219-1221. For a copy of the flyer needed to support WHVNA, contact Matt Fields at westhavenvillageneighborhood@gmail.com.

3. "Engaging Neighbors" Workshop Deadline Approaching

Applications for the Office of Neighborhoods' "Engaging Neighbors to Develop Stronger Neighborhoods" will be accepted until Jan. 12.

This free workshop consists of 11 weekly sessions on Thursday evenings beginning on Jan. 18. There will be a two-week spring break (March 15 and 22). Sessions will resume March 29 and conclude April 12 (assuming no postponements due to inclement weather).

"Engaging Neighbors" is designed for all active members in resident-led, resident-controlled neighborhood organizations, and for any city resident who may wish to start or revive a neighborhood group.

While space is limited, neighborhood groups are encouraged to send more than one person to this training. Reserve your seat by filling out the application [here](#).

For more information or for a hard copy of the application, contact Hannah Freeman at hfreeman@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-3456.

4. Win a \$75 Neighborhood Achievement Award

What creative, innovative, think-outside-the-box projects has your neighborhood organization been doing over the past two years?

Whether your organization is large or small, well established or brand new, your group is encouraged to apply. The awards will showcase accomplishments by neighborhood groups during calendar years 2016 and 2017.

To apply, fill in the [application](#) and email it to Debbie Sharp at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov OR mail it to Office of Neighborhoods, P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN, 37901, no later than 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26, 2018. If you have questions or need a hard copy mailed to you, contact Debbie Sharp at 215-4382 or the above email.

Neighborhood Achievement Awards are recognized every two years at The Neighborhood Conference, which is on March 24, 2018 at the Marriott Hotel. Winners receive \$75.00 for their Neighborhood Organization to use on future initiatives.

Example accomplishments include:

--- Beautification and place-making projects, green spaces and community gardens, and other physical improvements to the neighborhood;

--- Projects, events and activities that focus on connecting neighbors with one another, such as street fairs, potlucks, home tours, holiday celebrations, and neighbors helping neighbors;

--- New or ongoing communication efforts such as newsletters, social media and phone tree networks; and

--- Activities involved in launching, reviving, or strengthening a neighborhood group.

We are excited to see what the neighborhoods are up to!

5. Welcome New City Council Members!

This past Saturday, Dec. 16 2017, five new city council members were sworn in and a new Vice Mayor was voted in.

The new city council members are Stephanie Welch (first district), Andrew Roberto (second district), Seema Singh-Perez (third district), Lauren Rider (fourth district), and Gwen McKenzie (sixth district). Finbarr Saunders, sitting Council member (At Large Seat C) was selected as Vice Mayor by his fellow Council members.

As Vice Mayor, Saunders' responsibilities include: representing the city in the absence of Mayor Rogero, supervision for the council's office team of three, and acting as liaison between the mayor's office and the council itself. Vice Mayor Saunders will remain a councilmember.

Their first meeting on City Council is tonight, Tuesday, Dec. 19, at 6 p.m. in the Large Assembly Room of the City County Building.

For biographic information on all of Knoxville's City Council members, visit http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/government/city_council/city_council_members.

6. Garbage and Recycling Schedule Is Posted for the Holidays

Waste Connections, the City's household garbage and recycling hauler, is closed on Monday, Dec. 25. Garbage and recycling will not be collected that day. Residential and downtown collections typically scheduled for Monday collection will resume Tuesday, and the collection schedule will offset by one day for the remainder of the week.

Though garbage and recycling will be collected on Monday, Jan. 1, 2018, the Waste Connections offices will be closed. (The only holidays on which Waste Connections does not pick up are Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.)

For tips on how to prevent waste by recycling or donating gently used items during this giving season, please visit www.knoxvilletn.gov/garbage.

Following the Christmas holiday properly bagged excess holiday household trash and broken-down cardboard set next to full garbage carts will be picked up – a one-time exception to the requirement that all bags be placed inside carts.

The City's recycling centers will be open for recycling drop-offs, but the Goodwill attendant will only be available for donations of household goods for a half-day (until 1 p.m.) on Sunday, Dec. 24. The center will be unstaffed but open for recycling drop-off on Monday, Dec. 25, and Monday, Jan. 1.

The City's Solid Waste Management Facility, 1033 Elm St., will be closed from Saturday, Dec. 23, through Monday, Dec. 25, with normal hours resuming on Tuesday, Dec. 26. For the New Year's holiday, the facility will be closed from Saturday, Dec. 30, through Monday, Jan. 1, with normal hours resuming Tuesday, Jan. 2.

7. Winter Temperatures Here, City Ready with Snow Plan

It appears that Knoxville has dodged its first potential snow of the season, with a threatening weather system moving further south. Nevertheless, frosty temperatures have arrived, and City crews stand ready with the official Snow and Ice Removal Plan.

“Our weather in East Tennessee can be especially unpredictable, so we work diligently year-round to ensure that we’re at our best possible capacity and prepared for whatever comes our way,” notes Chad Weth, Director of Public Service, in the City’s press release.

The [Snow and Ice Removal Plan](#) prioritizes treatment by category. Streets are placed in three categories, with the Level 1 streets getting top priority:

- Level 1 – Main streets carrying the highest volume of traffic, hospital routes, and Knoxville Area Transit emergency routes;
- Level 2 – Streets connecting the main streets, feeder streets to connector streets, trouble spots, and hills; and
- Level 3 – Streets providing access to neighborhoods and main connections at the neighborhood level.

Roughly 470 lane miles are treated for Level 1 and 2 streets in the City’s limits. Level 3 streets are treated as resources are available, once higher-priority and heavier-traveled routes are cleared.

Snow preparations are a year-round effort involving equipment inspections, Snow and Ice Removal Plan updates (made each fall), brine and salt inventory upkeep, and more. When it comes to snow, the City has a multi-faceted arsenal.

For more information about the City’s Snow and Ice Removal Plan, please visit the [Public Works](#) page on [the City’s website](#).

8. Recode Staff Are Available to Speak

Would you and your neighbors or an organization that you are a part of like to learn more about Recode? Would you like to provide your feedback and find ways to stay engaged through the adoption of the new ordinance?

The Recode team wants meaningful community input throughout the process and welcomes opportunities to share information and hear your ideas.

The Recode Knoxville project is an update to the City of Knoxville's zoning ordinance. It is an opportunity to protect the things each of us value about our neighborhoods and commercial areas while allowing the kinds of smart, sustainable growth that will move Knoxville forward. It is a 21st century code that is easier to use, easier to administer, and will be a blueprint for the future. The project goals are: to support investment, protect things uniquely Knoxville, and connect our community.

Recode staff is available to join you at a meeting or gathering. To schedule something, call (865) 215-3758 or email them at recode@knoxmpc.org.

You can also keep up with Recode meetings, draft releases, and news about the project at recodeknoxville.com. Be on the lookout for the first draft of the new code followed by community meetings in February and March of 2018.

9. MLK Commemorative Commission Releases Events Schedule

The Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK) Commemorative Commission has a multitude of events in the week leading up to and through Jan. 15, 2018, the birthday of and designated holiday date for Martin Luther King Jr.

Events begin with a gallery tribute on Jan. 5, and close with a performance by the Knoxville Symphony Chamber Orchestra on Jan. 15. MLK day also includes the annual MLK Day Parade, one of the most popular MLK events. The parade culminates at Overcoming Believers Church (OBC), 211 Harriet Tubman St., the host of the Memorial Tribute Service.

The week's events feature two keynote speakers. Chairman John Hope Bryant is the keynote speaker for the 2018 Leadership Awards Luncheon on Thursday, Jan 11. Bryant is the founder and chairman for the non-profit Operation HOPE, which provides youth and adults with financial literacy skills.

The 2018 Memorial Tribute Service Keynote Speaker is Rev. Dr. Otis Moss Jr., a close friend of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and civil rights activist. The Memorial Tribute Service begins at 11:45 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 15 at OBC.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Commission is a non-profit composed entirely of volunteers. For more information and a complete list of events offered, visit MLKKnoxville.com. For questions, comments, contact admin@mlkknoxville.com. To give, contact finance@mlkknoxville.com.

10. League of Women Voters Hosts Workshop

The League of Women Voters of Knoxville-Knox County (LWVKKC) is hosting a workshop designed to help citizens understand how local government services are funded, the process of budgeting, and how public tax dollars are used.

Join the LWVKKC at their Mini-Citizen Academy: Understanding Local Government Finance and Budgets on Saturday, Jan 20, 2018 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the East

Tennessee Historical Society, 601 S. Gay Street. Free parking is available at the State Street Garage.

Participants will also learn how to get involved in budget decisions. Former Knox County Finance Director Kathy Hamilton is leading the workshop, joined by current Finance Directors from the City of Knoxville and Knox County government, Jim York and Chris Caldwell.

The workshop is open to the public, and no previous knowledge is expected. For further information, contact League board member Jamey Dobbs at jameydobbs@yahoo.com.

11. 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 Title VI Coordinator Tatia M. Harris at 215-2831.

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>*

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