



Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 11, No. 02 – Tuesday, January 16, 2018

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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. Get the Latest on Road Treatments, Garbage Collection

For information on how City crews are treating streets ahead of today's impending snow storm, [see this City blog post](#). Learn about how to deal with garbage pickup this week in the event Waste Connections crews fall behind. Also, [see the City's snow plan](#).

2. RiverHill Gateway Elects Officers

RiverHill Gateway Neighborhood Association has elected the following officers and committee chairs for 2018: Helen Bachrach, president; Dana Dalton, vice president; Donny Curry, secretary; Noel Kuck, treasurer; David Curry, communications; and Pia Serspinski, web manager.

To see your neighborhood organization's news in this space, contact Debbie Sharp at 215-4382 or dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov.

3. South Haven Meeting Cancelled

Due to pending inclement weather, tonight's public meeting in the South Haven neighborhood has been cancelled and will be rescheduled at a later date.

With the help of the East Tennessee Community Design Center, the **South Haven Neighborhood Association** (SHNA) has initiated a process to discuss street infrastructure improvement opportunities in the Baker Creek area of the neighborhood.

Neighbors can share input via the public meeting (when it is rescheduled) and by taking this survey: www.surveymonkey.com/r/SHNABCA112017. For more, contact Linda Rust at 679-9924.

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, download and fill out this [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. This year's conference will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at the Marriott Hotel just east of downtown.

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, phone tree networks, and welcome packets; and

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

By applying for and receiving a Neighborhood Achievement Award, your organization can help inspire other neighborhoods to venture into new projects. Showcase your achievements and encourage other neighborhoods!

5. Call for Door Prizes for Neighborhood Conference

The Office of Neighborhoods is soliciting door prizes for The Neighborhood Conference, which will be held on Saturday, March 24, at the Marriott Hotel.

This year, we are reducing the number of prizes and setting a minimum value of \$50 per prize. Smaller value prizes can be packaged together to reach that minimum. Prizes that have proven popular in the past include gift cards, restaurant coupons, memberships, event tickets, jewelry, bicycles, and household items.

Donors will receive recognition in this newsletter, on Facebook, on our Website, and at the conference itself. [See a list of last year's donors](#). Neighborhood groups can also make donations. To make a donation, or suggest door prizes, contact David Massey at 215-3232 or dmassey@knoxvilletn.gov.

6. Lonsdale, Sequoyah Hills on City Council Agenda

The agenda for tonight's Knoxville City Council agenda carries several items of interest to neighborhoods.

First, the agenda includes ordinances that mark some of the preliminary steps necessary for the construction of the Emerald Youth Foundation sports complex in the **Lonsdale neighborhood**. A gym will be built on one half of the block occupied by Sam E. Hill School, and soccer fields will be constructed on the adjacent larger block now bounded by Texas Avenue, Minnesota Avenue, Stonewall Street, and Sherman Street.

Three ordinances would authorize closure of the block of Minnesota Avenue between Stonewall and Sherman as well as two alleys that run through the two blocks. Two additional ordinances would change the zoning of one of the blocks from R-1A (low density residential) to OS-2 (parks and open space).

Second, Council will consider a resolution expressing appreciation to the **Kingston Pike Sequoyah Hills Association** for the neighborhood group's donation of all design plans, materials, supplies and labor to fully repair and restore the Sunhouse Fountain located within the City right-of-way at the corner of Cherokee Blvd. and Talahi Drive. The resolution also authorizes the City to enter into a limited use agreement with KPSHA so it can proceed with the restoration project.

To repair and restore the fountain to its original condition when built in 1928, KPSHA applied for and received a \$30,000 grant from the State of Tennessee, supplemented by another \$50,000 that the group raised through private donations. The fountain is part of Talahi Park which itself has undergone recent upgrades.

Finally, Council will appoint Fourth District City Councilwoman Lauren Rider as chair of the City's [Public Property Naming Committee](#). In addition, neighborhood leaders Amy Midis, Ronnie Collins, and Molly Gilbert are being appointed to that same committee.

7. North Central Project Begins with Street Closure

North Central Street has been closed to through traffic between Depot and Magnolia avenues.

The closure is part of the \$5.8 million North Central Street streetscapes project. Southern Constructors Inc. crews will be making stormwater infrastructure upgrades at the project's southern end. Access will be maintained to the Greyhound terminal.

The streetscapes project will replace storm drains and storm water pipes and repair and construct new sidewalks on North Central between West Depot Avenue and Woodland Avenue. A linear park is planned for the block of North Central Street between Baxter and Hinton avenues.

For more information on the North Central project, visit www.NorthCentralStreet.com, where interested persons can sign up through the website to receive "look ahead" emails detailing the ensuing two weeks of construction. Or text "ncentral" to 313131 to receive real-time text alert updates.

8. AG, KPD Close East Knoxville Nightclub

The Knoxville Police Department (KPD) and the District Attorney General once again have joined forces to use the state nuisance law to close a business due to sustained criminal activity.

Club Levels 2, a nightclub located at 2514 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, was closed last week when prosecutors in District Attorney Charme Allen's Felony Drug Unit and investigators with KPD's Repeat Offender Squad obtained a temporary injunction from Judge Scott Green based on gang activity, shootings, and extremely violent behavior occurring at the club.

The petition was filed against business owners Charles A. Flemmings, James E. Hodge, and Nathaniel J. Batts, as well as property owner BLH Enterprises.

The petition lists numerous incidents of criminal activity since the club opened last March. "In short, Club Levels 2 is a business that thrives on allowing and encouraging gang activity, drug and alcohol violations, and violent activity to take place, both inside and spilling into the parking lot. It is a location where multiple shootings have taken place in just the past few months, placing the entire community in danger..."

The nuisance injunction marks the fifty-first closure by the AG and KPD "in their ongoing collaboration to make neighborhoods safer from the activities that affect the safety and quality of life of residents in this community," the AG office noted.

9. 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 scCook@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>*

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