

Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 8, No. 10 – Tuesday, March 31, 2015

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Published by the City of Knoxville’s Office of Neighborhoods to report news important to Knoxville’s residential neighborhoods. Deadline for news & calendar items: 5 p.m. Mondays.

1. Participants Sought for “Fight the Blight” Workshop

The City of Knoxville’s Office of Neighborhoods, in coordination with various city departments, is conducting a four-session workshop focused on the challenges we face with blighted properties and how to better work together to address them.

The “Fight the Blight” workshop will be held over the course of four Wednesdays starting April 22 and continuing through May 13. The first three workshops will be held in the City County Building (Small Assembly Room) from 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m., and the final workshop on May 13 will be held from 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. at the CAC/L.T. Ross Building, 2247 Western Avenue.

To participate in this workshop, please fill out the one-page application located here: <http://www.planetreg.com/E3319621138154>. Or call Travis Nissen at 215-3077 for a hard copy to be mailed to you.

Seating is limited to members of existing neighborhood organizations inside city limits. Depending on the number of applications, the Office of Neighborhoods may limit the number of participants per neighborhood organization.

Applications must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 15.

At the workshop, neighborhood group representatives will learn how and why properties become blighted, examine the nuts and bolts of city codes enforcement, and hear about public and private efforts that address blight. They will share views and concerns about blight, and propose solutions for these properties at the neighborhood level as well as in collaborative efforts with the city.

Neighborhood representatives who participate in this workshop will then be able to join ongoing meetings of the Neighborhood Working Group, which is composed of neighborhood group representatives and city officials who meet every other month to discuss problem properties and possible solutions.

2. Old Mechanicsville to Host an Easter Service

Old Mechanicsville Neighborhood Interest (OMNI) is hosting All Soul's Church for the church's annual Easter Sunday Service on April 5.

This event will take place at 10:00 a.m. Sunday at the Old Mechanicville Park, located directly across from the historic Fire Station #5 on Arthur Street. The event is open to the public. Bring a lawn chair for your comfort. Parking is available at the Helen Ross McNabb parking lot located on Arthur Street.

3. Community Development Director to Speak in East Knoxville

Becky Wade, director of the City of Knoxville's Community Development Department, is the featured speaker at the East Knoxville Community Meeting next week.

The meeting begins at 1 p.m. Monday, April 6, at the Burlington Branch of the Knox County Public Library, 4614 Asheville Highway. This monthly meeting has covered a wide variety of topics pertinent to East Knoxville, including the Magnolia Avenue Corridor, the Magnolia Warehouse District, the fortunes of Knoxville Center Mall, loss of a Walgreen's store and concerns about lack of food access.

4. Closure of Island Home Avenue is Focus of Monday Meeting

City of Knoxville officials, along with representatives of KUB and contractor Empire Construction, will host a public meeting next week to update South Knoxville residents, businesses and stakeholders on the traffic detour routes associated with the construction of a new apartment complex.

The public meeting is set for 5:30 p.m. Monday, April 6, at South Knoxville Elementary School, 801 Sevier Avenue.

The 134-unit River's Edge Apartments --- consisting of one-, two- and three-bedroom units in five buildings --- are being constructed on Island Home Avenue, near the entrance to the Island Home Park neighborhood at Maplewood Drive.

Beginning in early April, Empire Construction will close Island Home Avenue between Sevier Avenue and Maplewood Drive to perform utility work associated with the River's Edge development. The closure will continue for at least eight weeks.

The eastbound detour route follows Sevier Avenue to McClung Avenue, turns left at South Haven Road and continues on Island Home Avenue to Maplewood. The westbound route uses the same streets in reverse. A bicycle detour route will be posted to substitute for the existing signed bicycle route.

5. City to Hold Public Meeting on 5-Year Consolidated Plan

The City of Knoxville will hold a public meeting next week to present the final draft of its Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan for spending federal dollars from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, at the John T. O'Connor Center, 611 Winona Street. In addition to making comments at this meeting, citizens may submit their comments via e-mail to Linda Rust at lrust@cityofknoxville.org or in writing by mail or fax to Linda Rust, City of Knoxville, Community Development Department, P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN 37901, fax 865-215-2962. All comments are due no later than Thursday, April 16. The plan is available online in two separate documents:

Annual Action Plan Final Draft

http://www.cityofknoxville.org/development/currentdocs/2015-16_aaplanfinal.pdf

Consolidated Plan Final Draft

<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/development/currentdocs/5YearConPlan-2015-2019.pdf>

Hard copies of the plan are available for review at the Department of Community Development; the Lawson-McGhee branch of the Knox County Public Library; and the main office of the Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee. Citizens may also obtain a copy of the draft plan by calling the Community Development Department at 865-215-2120.

6. Bicycle Facilities Plan Ready for Public Input

A public meeting on a plan to improve the accessibility, safety and convenience of traveling by bicycle in Knoxville will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, at the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay St.

Staff from the City of Knoxville's Engineering Department, the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), and consultants Kimley-Horn & Associates and Toole Design Group will be at the meeting.

Knoxville bicyclists last year identified roads where they think improved riding conditions would create better connections for bicycle transportation.

A planning committee and professional design consultants prepared the Bicycle Facilities Plan, which sorts more than 100 recommended projects into immediate, short-term, mid-term and long-term timeframes. The priorities in the plan will help guide the use of current and future funding.

The April 8 meeting will start with a presentation of the plan, followed by questions and answers and an open-house style discussion with consultants and staff.

See www.cityofknoxville.org/bicycleplan/feb2015_finalreport.pdf for a copy of the Bicycle Facilities Plan.

See www.cityofknoxville.org/bicycleplan/feb2015_appendices.pdf for the plan's appendix, which contains maps of proposed projects and a list of all recommended projects.

7. City Seeks Comment on Urban Agriculture, Food Production

The City of Knoxville's Office of Sustainability has proposed zoning ordinance changes to remove barriers to urban agriculture and food production on private property.

See http://www.cityofknoxville.org/sustainability/UrbanAgric_ZoningOrdProp.pdf to view the full proposal and the specific ordinance changes. A public hearing on this effort was held last year. The Metropolitan Planning Commission will consider the ordinance at its regular monthly meeting on May 14. Passage there would send the ordinance to Knoxville City Council in June.

Brian Blackmon, Sustainability Project Manager, will go over the proposed changes at the regular monthly meeting of the Neighborhood Advisory Council on Wednesday, April 8. The meeting begins at 4:30 p.m. The meeting is held at the CAC/L.T. Ross Building, 2247 Western Avenue.

In addition, the Office of Sustainability is fielding comments and questions about the proposal and is available to speak with individuals or neighborhood associations about the proposal. Contact Brian at 215-2065 or bblackmon@cityofknoxville.org with questions, comments, or requests for more information.

8. Neighborhood and Government Calendar

Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-3456.

Visit <http://www.cityofknoxville.org/calendar/> for a complete list of meetings of various city boards and commissions. See the Community Events Calendar:
<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/events/events.pdf>

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@cityofknoxville.org or 215-2034 no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend.

Tuesday, March 31 --- 6:30 p.m.

Chilhowee Park Neighborhood Association (Last Tuesdays)
Administration Building, Knoxville Zoo
Paul Ruff, 696-6584

Tuesday, March 31 --- 7 p.m.

City Council (Every Other Tuesday)
<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/citycouncil>
Agenda: <http://www.cityofknoxville.org/citycouncil/agenda.pdf>

Wednesday, April 1 --- Breakfast - 7:30 a.m. Meeting - 8 a.m.

East Towne Area Business & Professional Association (First Wednesday)
Neighborhood Residents and Leaders encouraged to attend
New Harvest Park Community Building

Chair, Justin Sterling, JSterling@simon.com

Thursday, April 2 --- 6 pm

Cumberland Estates West Neighborhood Watch

(First Thursdays, even-numbered months)

Cumberland Estates Recreation Center, 4529 Silver Hill Drive

Anna Compton, 599-0724, amcompto@gmail.com

Monday, April 6 --- 1:00 p.m.

East Knoxville Community Meeting (First Mondays)

Burlington Branch Library, 4614 Asheville Highway

Michael Covington, 865-274-7958, mdcov@hotmail.com

Monday, April 6 --- 4 p.m.

Love Towers Fellowship Association (First Mondays except holidays)

Love Towers Community Room; 1171 Armstrong St.

Bill Jackson, 221-4402

Monday, April 6 --- 5:30 p.m.

Public Meeting

Topic: Upcoming closure of Island Home Avenue

South Knoxville Elementary School, 801 Sevier Avenue

City of Knoxville, KUB and Empire Construction

Dawn Michelle Foster, dmfoster@knoxvilletn.gov, 865-215-2607

Monday, April 6 --- 6-8 p.m.

Wesley Neighbors Community Association

(First Mondays, even-numbered months)

Bearden Branch Library, 100 Golf Club Rd.

John Heins, 297-7045

Monday, April 6 --- 6:30 p.m.

Parkridge Community Organization (First Mondays except holidays)

Cansler YMCA, 616 Jessamine St.

Jerry Caldwell, 329-9943

Tuesday, April 7 --- 11:45 a.m.

Agenda Review, Metropolitan Planning Commission

(Tuesday before MPC's monthly meeting)

Small Assembly Room, City County Building

Tuesday, April 7 --- 4:30 p.m.

Dandridge Avenue Neighborhood Watch (First Tuesdays)

Beck Cultural Exchange Center, 1927 Dandridge Ave.

Lawrence Washington, 524-4498

Tuesday, April 7 --- 5:30 p.m.

Public Meeting

Community Development Department, City of Knoxville

Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan

John T. O'Connor Center, 611 Winona Street
Linda Rust, 215-2120, lrust@cityofknoxville.org

Tuesday, April 7 --- 6 p.m.

Mechanicsville Community Association (First Tuesdays)
Fairview Recreation Center, 1628 Dora St.
Charles Wright, 637-1802

Tuesday, April 7 --- 6-7 p.m.

Norwood Neighborhood Watch – 6 p.m.
Norwood Homeowners Association – 7 p.m.
Monthly on a Tuesday: Apr 7, May 5, Jun 2, Jul 14, Aug 11, Sep 8
New Hope Presbyterian Church, 1705 Merchants Road
Lynn Redmon, 688-3136

Wednesday, April 8 --- 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Food Policy Council
(Second Wednesdays but check website for confirmation)
Knox County Health Department, 140 Dameron Avenue
<http://www.knoxfood.org/>; info@knoxfood.org

Wednesday, April 8 --- 11:30 a.m.

Community Forum (Second Wednesdays)
Bearden Branch Library, 100 Golf Club Road
Sue Mauer, 690-0269

Wednesday, April 8 --- 4:30 p.m.

Neighborhood Advisory Council, City of Knoxville
(Second Wednesdays except December)
CAC / L.T. Ross Building, 2247 Western Ave.
<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/neighborhoods>
David Massey, 215-3232

Wednesday, April 8 --- 6 p.m.

Public Meeting: Plan to improve accessibility, safety and convenience
of traveling by bicycle in Knoxville.
East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street
www.cityofknoxville.org/bicycleplan/feb2015_finalreport.pdf
City of Knoxville

Thursday, April 9 --- 1:30 p.m.

Metropolitan Planning Commission (Second Thursdays)
<http://www.knoxmpc.org>
Agenda: <http://agenda.knoxmpc.org>

Thursday, April 9 --- 5:30 p.m.

City Council Special Call Meeting
Topic: Revisions to the Sign Ordinance
Small Assembly Room, City County Building

Thursday, April 9 --- 6 p.m.

Lonsdale Homes Resident Association (Second Thursdays)
Community Building, 1956 Goins Dr.
Phyllis Patrick, 323-7224

Thursday, April 9 --- 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Greenwood Heights Neighborhood Watch (Second Thursdays)
Corner of Buttercup Circle and Sundrop Dr.
Alice Wershing, awershing@aol.com

Thursday, April 9 --- 7-8 p.m.

Colonial Village Neighborhood Association
(Second Thursdays except December and January)
South Knoxville Church of God, 5623 Magazine Road
Terry Caruthers, 579-5702, t_caruthers@hotmail.com

Friday, April 10 --- 7:45 a.m. and 8 a.m.

North Knoxville Business & Professional Association (Second Fridays)
Breakfast at 7:45 am, Meeting at 8 a.m.
Open to North Knoxville Residents, Neighborhood Groups, Business Owners
Meeting location varies. Check Website for location. <http://northknoxvillebpa.org/>
Becky Dodson, becky.dodson@hma.com, 545-6750.

Friday, April 10 --- 6 p.m.

Beaumont Community Organization (Second Fridays)
Community Room, Solid Waste Transfer Station, 1033 Elm St.
Natasha Murphy, 936-0139

Sunday, April 12 --- 2 p.m.

Historic Sutherland Heights Neighborhood Association
(Second Sundays, even-numbered months)
Marble City Baptist Church, 2740 Sutherland Avenue
John Yates, 865-588-8883, john.a.yates1950@gmail.com

Monday, April 13 --- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Home Energy Savings Fair
Community Action Committee building, 2247 Western Ave
www.knoxvillescoves.org
Louise Gorenflo, ClimateKnoxville@gmail.com

Monday, April 13 --- 1:30 p.m.

Montgomery Village Residents Association (Second Mondays)
4600 Joe Lewis Rd. #175
Ronnie Thompson, 604-6492

Monday, April 13 --- 3 p.m.

Northgate Resident Association (Second Mondays)
Social Hall, 4301 Whittle Springs Rd.
David Wildsmith, 219-0417

Monday, April 13 --- 5-6 p.m.

Cold Springs Neighborhood Watch (Second Mondays)

Michael Meadowview Neighborhood Watch (Second Mondays)

CAC East Neighborhood Center, 4200 Asheville Hwy.

Michael Meadowview: Marian Bailey, 525-5625

Cold Springs: Terrell Patrick, 525-4833

Monday, April 13

Fountain City Town Hall (Second Mondays)

Board Meetings: 6 p.m. Monthly

General Membership Meetings: 7 p.m., April, September, November

Church of the Good Shepherd, 5337 Jacksboro Pike

Daniel Dunn, 387-6390, daniel.dunn06@yahoo.com

Monday, April 13 --- 6 p.m.

Lyons View Community Club (Second Mondays)

Lyons View Community Center, 114 Sprankle Ave.

Mary Brewster, 454-2390

Monday, April 13 --- 6 p.m.

Vestal Community Organization (Second Mondays)

South Knoxville Community Center, 522 Old Maryville Pike

Newman Seay, 577-4593

Monday, April 13 --- 6:30 p.m.

Community Potluck

Historic Fourth & Gill Neighborhood Organization (Second Mondays)

Central United Methodist Church, 210 Third Ave.

Liz Upchurch, 898-1809, lizupchurch1@gmail.com

Monday, April 13 --- 6:30 p.m.

Historic Old North Knoxville (Second Mondays)

St. James Episcopal Church, Parish Hall, 1101 N. Broadway

Andie Ray, 548-5221

Monday, April 13 --- 7 p.m.

Belle Morris Community Action Group (Second Mondays)

City View Baptist Church, 2311 Fine Ave.

http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Belle_Morris

Rick Wilen, 524-5008

Tuesday, April 14 --- 2 p.m.

Western Heights Resident Association (Second Tuesdays)

Building to the right of the mail boxes when you enter Western Heights

Jamesena Nolan, 237-5558

Tuesday, April 14 --- 4-5 p.m.

City of Knoxville Greenways Commission

(2nd Tuesdays every two months)

<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/greenways.asp>

Larry Cox Senior Center, 3109 Ocoee Trail
Lori Goerlich, Parks & Recreation Dept., 215-2807

Tuesday, April 14 --- 6 p.m.

Brown Avenue Neighborhood Watch (Second Tuesdays)
Hoitt Ave. Baptist Church, 2121 Hoitt Ave.
Jimmy Ramsey, 637-0243

Tuesday, April 14 --- 7 p.m.

City Council (Every Other Tuesday)
<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/citycouncil>
Agenda: <http://www.cityofknoxville.org/citycouncil/agenda.pdf>

Wednesday, April 15 --- 12 Noon

Eastport/Lee Williams Neighborhood Watch (every 3rd Wednesday)
Lee Williams Senior Center, 2240 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave
Sylvia Cook, 206-3433, sylviacook5901@comcast.net

Thursday, April 16 --- Breakfast - 7:30 a.m. Meeting - 8 a.m.

East Knoxville Business & Professional Association (Third Thursdays)
Open to Neighborhood Residents and Leaders
Meeting location varies
Doug Minter, Dminter@knoxvillechamber.com, Knoxville Chamber, 637-4550
<http://www.eastknox.org/>

Thursday, April 16 --- 8:30 a.m.

Historic Zoning Commission (Third Thursdays)
<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/historic.asp>
Kaye Graybeal, 215-3795, kaye.graybeal@knoxmpc.org

Thursday, April 16 --- 12 p.m.

KUB Board of Commissioners (Third Thursdays, except July)
Historic Miller's Building, 445 S. Gay St.
See www.kub.org. Click on "About Us" at top of the page.

Thursday, April 16 --- 4 p.m.

City Board of Zoning Appeals (Third Thursdays)
Small Assembly Room, City County Building
Pre-Agenda Meeting: 3 p.m. in Room 511
<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/zoning.asp>

Thursday, April 16 --- 6 p.m.

Public meeting for Police Advisory & Review Committee (PARC)
City County Building, Main Assembly Room, 400 W. Main St.
<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/parc/>
Lisa Chambers, 215-3869, lchambers@cityofknoxville.org

Thursday, April 16 --- 7 p.m.

Old Sevier Community Group
(Third Thursdays, January-November)

South Knoxville Elementary School Library, 801 Sevier Avenue
Gary Deitsch, 573-7355, garyedeitsch@bellsouth.net

Saturday, April 18 --- 10 a.m.

South Haven Neighborhood Association (Third Saturdays)
Hillcrest United Methodist Church, 1615 Price Ave.
Pat Harmon, 591-3958

Monday, April 20 --- 7 p.m.

Historic Fourth & Gill Neighborhood Organization
Board Meeting (Third Mondays except January)
"Birdhouse"/Fourth & Gill Center, 800 North Fourth Avenue
Liz Upchurch, 898-1809, lizupchurch1@gmail.com

Monday, April 20 --- 7 p.m.

Alice Bell Spring Hill Neighborhood Association
(Third Mondays except June, July, December)
All are welcome to attend.
New Harvest Park, 4775 New Harvest Lane
Ronnie Collins, 637-9630

Monday, April 20 --- 7 p.m.

West Hills Community Association (Third Mondays)
Executive Committee: April, July, August, September, November, December
General Meeting: February, May and October
First Church of the Nazarene, 538 Vanosdale Rd.
Ashley Williams, 313-0282

Tuesday, April 21 --- 6 p.m.

Delrose Drive Neighborhood Watch (Third Tuesdays)
Riverview Baptist Church, 3618 Delrose Dr.
Corina and John Buffalow, 523-0102

Tuesday, April 21 --- 6:30 p.m.

Lonsdale United for Change (Third Tuesdays)
Lonsdale Recreation Center, Stonewall Ave.
Steve Ritter, 973-0877

Tuesday, April 21 --- 7 p.m.

Edgewood Park Neighborhood Association (Third Tuesdays, except December)
Larry Cox Senior Center, 3109 Ocoee Trail
<http://edgewoodpark.us/>

Wednesday, April 22 --- 9 a.m.

Infill Housing Design Review Committee (Fourth Wednesdays)
Re: infill housing in central city neighborhoods with IH-1 overlay
<http://www.knoxmpc.org/zoning/infill.htm>
Jeff Archer, 215-3821, jeff.archer@knoxmpc.org

Thursday, April 23 --- 9 a.m.

Special Events Community Meeting (Fourth Thursdays, January-October)
“Meet with city services that may assist in planning your event.”
Civic Coliseum Ballroom, Third Floor
Free Parking available at Civic Coliseum Parking Garage
Office of Special Events, 215-4248

Monday, April 27 --- 5 p.m. (zoning at 7 p.m.)
Knox County Commission
(Fourth Mondays, January-October. Third Mondays, November-December)
www.knoxcounty.org/commission
Agenda: Click on “Information” and then “Commission Agendas”
Public Forum held at beginning & ending of meeting

Tuesday, April 28 --- 6 p.m.
Inskip Community Association (Asociación de la Comunidad de Inskip)
Community Meeting (Fourth Tuesdays)
Inskip Baptist Church, 4810 Rowan Rd.
Betty Jo Mahan, 679-2748, bettymahan@knology.net

Thursday, April 30 --- 3:30 p.m.
Better Building Board
(Last Thursday, January-October. First Thursday, December)
Small Assembly Room, City-County Building
Agenda: <http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/betterbuilding.asp>
Cheri Hollifield, 215-2119, chollifield@cityofknoxville.org

Friday, May 1 --- 9:30 a.m.
Public Officer Hearing – Neighborhood Codes Enforcement
(Usually held on the Friday following Better Building Board meetings)
The PO considers action on violations of city’s building codes.
Small Assembly Room, City County Building
Agenda: <http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/betterbuilding.asp>
Cheri Hollifield, 215-2119, chollifield@cityofknoxville.org

Saturday, May 2 --- 1 p.m.
Boright Area Neighborhood Watch (Quarterly)
3004 Boright Drive
Lola Alapo, 525-1520, BorightGroup@gmail.com

Monday, May 11 --- 7 p.m.
Town Hall East
(Second Mondays in November, January, March and May)
Fellowship Hall, Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 409 Asheville Highway
Eston Williams, 406-5412

Saturday, June 27 --- 9 a.m. until last person is heard
“Coffee with the Councilman”
(Usually the Last Saturday of Each Quarter)
Vice Mayor and First District City Council Member Nick Pavlis
Bring your concerns or stop by to chat; open to all city residents.

Roundup Restaurant, 3643 Sevierville Pike
Nick Pavlis, 454-7216

- ** 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: www.cityofknoxville.org/neighborhoods*
- ** Don't have Internet access? Call 215-3232 if you need a copy of a particular document.*