



Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 10, No. 4 – Tuesday, January 24, 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. Conference to Feature Neighborhood Tee Shirt Contest

A neighborhood tee shirt is a great boost to a neighborhood and a wonderful community-building activity for a neighborhood organization.

And what better way to show off your neighborhood tee shirt than to enter it in the Neighborhood Tee Shirt Contest at the upcoming Neighborhood Conference on Saturday, March 11, at the Knoxville Convention Center.

In a single meeting, neighbors can brainstorm design ideas and select the one that best represents the community. Ask everyone what makes your neighborhood unique, what you love about it, and what you hope it will become in the future. Design ideas will flow from that discussion. A committee can then be appointed to identify artistic talent that develops the artwork.

For the contest, tee shirts can be submitted in advance to the Office of Neighborhoods during the week of March 6; contact Debbie Sharp at 215-4382 to make arrangements. The deadline for submittal is 8 a.m. on the day of the conference. A panel of judges will select the first, second and third place winners who will be announced at the conference luncheon. [See the tee shirt contest rules](#).

2. Call for Neighborhood Photos

Many activities and events occur in Knoxville's neighborhoods throughout the year.

Neighborhood groups hold meetings, organize neighborhood cleanups, gather at potlucks, and engage in numerous community service projects.

Do you have photos of your neighbors, your neighborhood, and group activities that you want to share?

The Office of Neighborhoods is preparing a slide show of photographs that will be shown throughout the day at **The Neighborhood Conference**, to be held Saturday, March 11, at the Knoxville Convention Center. This is a great way to showcase and promote your neighborhood. Please include a photo of your neighborhood entrance sign if you have one. **Photos are due Feb. 21.**

Send your digital photos to kfox@knoxvilletn.gov with "photo" in the subject line. Be sure to include the name of the neighborhood and a phone number. Photo captions are optional. Call Kirsten Fox at 215-3077 if you have questions.

3. Three More Sponsors Support the Neighborhood Conference

Three more companies have signed on as sponsors of the City of Knoxville's **Neighborhood Conference** on Saturday, March 11.

The conference is free to all participants, and this is made possible not only by taxpayer funds but also by the donations of corporate sponsors who are each contributing \$500 to \$3,500 toward this neighborhood supportive event.

[Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers](#) --- a civil engineering firm based in Knoxville --- will participate as a silver sponsor, its third sponsorship in as many conferences.

[First Tennessee Bank](#) --- a part of the First Horizon National Corporation family of companies --- once again is participating as a bronze sponsor.

[TIS Insurance Services](#) , an independent, privately-owned insurance consulting and brokerage agency, is a bronze sponsor in its first involvement with the conference.

As previously announced, [Hatcher-Hill Properties](#) and [Waste Connections of Tennessee](#) are the two lunch sponsors, and [Home Federal Bank](#) the breakfast sponsor.

Gold sponsors are [Cannon & Cannon Inc.](#) and [Coldwell Banker Wallace and Wallace Realtors](#). The [Knoxville Area Association of Realtors](#) is a silver sponsor. The other bronze sponsors are [Broadway Carpets](#) and [Dover Development](#) .

Please visit these sponsors' web pages to learn more about their services. When you get a chance, please thank them for their support of Knoxville's neighborhoods.

Additional sponsors are needed. To learn about sponsorship opportunities, [see this web page](#) and contact David Massey at 215-3232 or dmassey@knoxvilletn.gov.

4. Donors Contribute 18 More Door Prizes

The Neighborhood Conference always has a great range of door prizes, and the 2017 conference on Saturday, March 11, will live up to that tradition.

Door prizes are coming in every day from amazing local donors. Volunteers and Office of Neighborhoods staff have secured 18 more door prizes from these neighborhood-friendly businesses and nonprofits: [Alpha Omega Hair Design](#), [Billy Lush Board Shop](#), [Blue Coast Grill & Bar](#), [Borderland Tees](#), [Clarence Brown Theatre](#), [Dazzo's Pizzeria](#), [Dragonfly Aerial Arts Studio](#), [Earth to Old City](#), [Glowing Body Studio](#), [Greenlee's Bike Shop](#), [Knox Brew Tours](#), [Litton's](#), [Market House Café](#), [Preservation Pub/ Scruffy City Hall](#), [Uncorked Kitchen](#), [VolShop](#), and [Women's Basketball Hall of Fame](#).

One neighborhood organization --- [Fountain City Town Hall](#) --- has donated a \$50 gift certificate to a favorite Fountain City restaurant, Litton's. Thank you!

These prizes are in addition to nine prizes reported previously in the [Jan.10 Neighborhood Advisory](#). Please help the Office of Neighborhoods thank all of these donors when you visit their businesses.

Thanks also to the members of the door prize committee who have volunteered their time to help secure these prizes: Jenny Wright, Jody Mullins, Kelley DeLuca, Lola Alapo, Loretta Cravens, Molly Gilbert, Robbie Arrington, and Sue Stephens.

Additional door prizes are welcome. Please contact Wyatt Pless at 215-3456 or wpless@knoxvilletn.gov as soon as possible.

5. City Council Elections This Year

This time next year, there will be five new members on the 9-seat Knoxville City Council, and the buzz has already started on who's running and who's not.

The open seats and current office holders are District 1 – Nick Pavlis, District 2 – Duane Grieve, District 3 – Brenda Palmer, District 4 – Nick Della Volpe, and District 6 – Daniel Brown. These public servants are unable to run again because they are term-limited.

The District 5 seat and the three at-large seats have different terms, so those elections do not come up for another two years. To be eligible to run for a specific district seat, a candidate must live in that district. See a [map](#) of the City Council districts. [Learn more about City Council in general](#).

Here is a partial schedule for the 2017 election:

February 17 -- First day to pick up a nominating petition

May 18 – Candidate Qualifying Deadline

July 31 – Final day to register to vote before primary election

August 29 – Primary Election Day

October 9 – Final day to register to vote before general election

November 7—General Election Day

The full schedule can be found on this Knox County Election Commission web page: http://knoxcounty.org/election/election_schedule.php

City Council elections are non-partisan. In the Primary Election, the district candidates run just within their geographical districts. The two candidates with the most votes in each district go on to the general election, regardless of party affiliation. In the general election, votes are cast city-wide. In effect, each district nominates two candidates in the primary election to be voted on city-wide in the general election.

6. New Details on Reconstruction of Broadway Viaduct

The Broadway viaduct likely will not be closed to traffic until late 2017 or early 2018, and the bridge may be out of service for only 18 months, if all goes well, according to officials from the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT).

The state officials spoke at the Jan. 23 meeting of the Broadway Corridor Task Force, which is composed of business and neighborhood representatives along the portion of Broadway between East Fifth Avenue and I-640.

The viaduct spans the Norfolk Southern Railway yards and is located between W. Depot Avenue and West Jackson Avenue. Opened to traffic in 1927, the 90-year-old bridge recently underwent an inspection that dictated the replacement, according to John Barrett, a project development manager for TDOT.

Barrett told a group of 50-60 Knoxville residents that negotiations are still underway with a half dozen property owners affected by the project. Chief among these is the railroad, which operates an average of 10 trains per day under the bridge. Among other complexities, the new bridge will have to be higher than the current bridge due to larger rail cars.

TDOT is hoping that it can advertise for bids and award a contract for the bridge replacement this spring. From that point, it will take approximately six months to relocate gas and electric lines that are located under the bridge. Asbestos materials must be removed as well. It is anticipated that the bridge will remain open during this period.

Once the bridge does close around the end of 2017 or early 2018, it must be dismantled piece by piece and then rebuilt using very limited space for bridge components and construction equipment, Barrett stated. Just last week, Knoxville City Council approved a resolution accepting \$167,010 from TDOT for temporary construction easements on property the city owns along West Jackson Avenue between Broadway and Gay Street. A portion of the city's parking lot on Jackson is affected. The easements are for three years starting from the date of construction.

TDOT previously has estimated that the bridge would be out of service for as long as 30 months, but with luck the work can be completed in 18 months, Barrett said Monday. Barrett and TDOT Engineer Kristin Qualls also reported that:

*** TDOT, the City, and homeless service providers on Broadway have been in discussions regarding the safety of pedestrians, a signed alternate route for pedestrians, and security measures to prevent individuals from accessing the construction area. This communication will continue throughout the project.

*** As noted previously, the vehicle detour route will involve Fifth Avenue, Hall of Fame Drive, and Summit Hill Drive. [See the map.](#)

*** When the bridge reopens, it will have one lane in each direction and one center turn lane. This is already the street profile north of W. Depot. On the W. Jackson end, the right-hand, north-bound lane of Broadway will be turned into a right-only lane onto W. Jackson.

*** The reduction in bridge lanes will allow for the inclusion of both sidewalks and bike lanes on the new bridge.

*** TDOT is responsible for inspecting all 19,000-plus bridges in Tennessee every two years. Approximately 8,000 of the 19,000 bridges are state bridges.

*** The expansion of the I-640 interchange with Broadway, a project that is now underway, is expected to be completed by mid-2018.

*** Although TDOT was unable to provide sidewalks or bike lanes on Broadway underneath I-640, it is working with the City to examine pedestrian and bike options via Old Broadway. (City Council recently accepted a donation of land from KUB that would help connect the Old Broadway area to Adair Park.)

[7. 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 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](#)
- [Knoxville Mercury](#) (weekly community paper)

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.