



Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 10, No. 22 – Tuesday, June 06, 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. It's Wiffle Ball Time for Seven Knoxville Neighborhoods

Seven neighborhoods are all set to compete in Knoxville's first ever Neighborhood Wiffle Ball Tournament this coming Saturday, June 10, at Victor Ashe Park.

Participating groups represent the Burlington, Forest Heights, Island Home Park, Oakwood Lincoln Park, Timbercrest, Wesley Neighbors/West Hills, and Westwood neighborhoods.

Play begins at 9 a.m. The teams are set to face off in a double elimination showdown. They will play on four fields, and each team will play at least twice. The City's Parks and Recreation Department is handling logistics.

Please come out and support your sister neighborhoods and see who emerges as neighborhood wiffle ball champion. Spectators should bring lawn chairs and picnic blankets for more comfortable seating. A concession stand will be available.

This tournament is the brain child of Jennifer Reynolds of Timbercrest. If you have an idea for tournaments or other events that bring together Knoxville's neighborhoods, contact Debbie Sharp in the Office of Neighborhoods at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-4382. We will assist in any way possible.

2. Thursday Workshop to Focus on Strategic Planning for Neighborhoods

The Office of Neighborhoods is holding a leadership training workshop this coming Thursday, June 8, at the Public Works Building, 3131 Morris Avenue.

This is the second of a two-part class on strategic planning. However, all are welcome to attend and participate. The class will discuss the use of a one-year work plan for a specific project, where tasks, timeline, and persons responsible all come together in a single document. [Download the one-year work plan template.](#)

Discussion in the highly participatory session will be led by David Massey, the City's neighborhood coordinator. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and the class runs from 6-8 p.m. Bring your own water and snack. For more, contact David at 215-3232.

The one-year work plan is similar to the timeline contained in the application for a Neighborhood Small Grant. This June 8 class will be an excellent dry run for developing a project for funding. See [this page](#) on the OON website for the grants process timeline, the application and the guidelines.

3. Funding Available for City Neighborhood Groups

The City of Knoxville has set aside up to \$30,000 for neighborhood improvement projects in the year beginning January 1, 2018.

The funding is made available to resident-led, resident-controlled neighborhood organizations under the Neighborhood Small Grants Program (NSGP) administered by the Office of Neighborhoods.

A city neighborhood organization can apply for \$500 to \$3,000 using the application form and the program guidelines that can be found [on this web page](#). To have hard copies of these documents mailed to you, contact Debbie Sharp at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-4382.

All potential applicant groups must send a representative to a **mandatory pre-application workshop** from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, June 15, at the city's main bus terminal, Knoxville Station, located at 301 East Church Avenue. Look for the community meeting room on the Church Avenue level.

Free parking is available on Church Street. If no spaces are left, park in the Civic Auditorium "A" garage. Mention Office of Neighborhoods to the attendant. Do NOT park at the Outpatient Diagnostic Center.

If your group is absolutely unable to send a representative to the June 15 workshop, contact Debbie Sharp to see if a make-up session can be scheduled.

4. MPC Schedules Open House on Draft Walkability Ordinance

Join Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC), City, and County staff next week for coffee and conversation about the new draft walkability ordinance.

The open house will be held from 7:30-9:30 a.m. Thursday, June 15, in the Rear Conference Room at Panera Bread, 4855 Kingston Pike. All are welcome to attend, ask questions, and provide your views on the draft ordinance, which can be found [here](#) on the MPC website.

5. KAT Invites Neighborhoods to Try Transit

Here's a cool idea for building camaraderie and community among neighbors.

Try Transit Week is June 19-25, and Knoxville Area Transit (KAT) has got a special event planned just for neighborhood groups.

Cajole your neighbors into taking a group bus ride to the Market Square Farmer's Market on Saturday, June 24. Stop by the KAT Bus Booth to receive free tickets back home --- along with some other fun giveaways --- for your entire group. Tag KAT on social media during your trip for chances for more fun prizes.

As an extra incentive, neighborhood groups that tell KAT in advance that they are participating will receive 10 free ride passes to ride downtown for free. Just contact KAT no later than Friday, June 16, so the passes can be mailed to you.

By the way, any group of neighbors can participate; you do not have to have a formal organization.

Never ridden before? No problem! To plan your trip, use KAT's new Google Trip Planner located at www.katbus.com. Just type in your location and your destination, and let Google locate your routes and stops. Once you are downtown, free trolleys will connect you to the Farmer's Market.

For more, contact Anne Victoria at avictoria@katbus.com or 215-7863.

6. Landlord Summit Set for This Thursday

The Third Annual Landlord Summit will be held from 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. this coming Thursday, June 8, at CAC's L.T. Ross Building, 2247 Western Avenue.

Please register at www.eventbrite.com or call Barbara Disney at 546-6500. Free continental breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. Topics include energy assistance programs available through CAC; rental assistance programs available through Knoxville's Community Development Corp. (KCDC); free legal advice on new housing laws, eviction requirements, fair housing, and bedbug protocols; and opportunities and information on advertising available residential rental properties.

This event is a project of the Knoxville Knox County Homeless Coalition and is sponsored by CAC, KCDC, the City of Knoxville, Legal Aid of East Tennessee, and Equality Coalition for Housing Opportunities.

7. South Knoxville Alliance Hosts City Council Candidates

The [South Knoxville Alliance of Businesses & Professionals](#) (SKA) is sponsoring a Meet-and-Greet for First District City Council candidates on Tuesday, June 13, from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the library of Dogwood Elementary School, 705 Tipton Ave.

The candidates for the First District seat are Greg Knox, Rebecca Parr, Stephanie Welch, and Andrew Wilson. Incumbent Nick Pavlis is term limited.

The format will consist of an introductory statement from each candidate, followed by time for candidates to meet and speak with attendees. The venue is accessible for people with disabilities. Light refreshments will be served.

In this year's City Council elections, there are a total of 30 candidates for five open seats --- the first, second, third, fourth, and sixth districts. [See a list of candidates.](#)

The Primary Election will be held Tuesday, Aug. 29, with early voting running from Aug. 9-24, and the General Election is set for Nov. 7. [See the full schedule.](#)

Knoxville's non-partisan City Council election is a two-step process. Voters in each district vote only for candidates in their districts in the Primary. The two candidates with the most votes in each district become that district's nominees, and they run citywide in the General Election.

If your organization schedules a candidate forum, let us publicize it. Contact Debbie Sharp at 215-4382 or dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov.

8. Board of Zoning Appeals Meets Next Week

Thirteen properties are on the agenda for next week's meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA).

Established by city ordinance, BZA hears appeals of denials of building permits by the city's Building Inspections Department. The board, consisting of five citizens appointed by the Mayor, meets at 4 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building.

BZA meets Thursday, June 15. Addresses on the agenda include 412 N. Burns Road; 902 N. Central Street; 2409 N. Central Street; 2217 Cumberland Avenue; 3343 Dewine Road; 3100, 3102 & 3102, Unit A, Forestdale Avenue; 1010 E. Jackson Avenue; 7509 Kingston Pike; 0 Lake Avenue; 4811 Lyons View Pike; 201 S. Northshore Drive; 7685 S. Northshore Drive; 7699 S. Northshore Drive.

Keep up with how the BZA might impact your neighborhood. Watch for signs indicating that there is a pending decision on a particular piece of property. Most signs are for Metropolitan Planning Commission issues --- which are also important --- but signs with the word "variance" are BZA items. (Learn how MPC is changing the way it handles [notification signs.](#))

The BZA agenda is posted on the city website. Browse to www.knoxvilletn.gov/boards and click on Board of Zoning Appeals. The agenda is posted no later than the Monday prior to the BZA meeting each month.

A neighborhood group that keeps track of BZA will call the Plans Review & Inspections Department at 215-3669 to request and study the paperwork on a particular appeal, decide whether to take a position on the appeal, and then attend the BZA meeting to voice the group's support or objections. A group can also request a postponement to allow time to meet with the applicant.

Decisions of the BZA can be appealed within 15 days of the BZA decision to Knoxville City Council. Appeals of a City Council decision are made to Chancery Court within 60 days of a City Council decision related to BZA.

9. Bridge Welcomes Y'all to World Refugee Day

[Bridge Refugee Services](#) --- the nonprofit organization that welcomes and helps settle refugees who come to East Tennessee --- is inviting everyone to help celebrate World Refugee Day from 6-8 p.m. Saturday, June 17, at its offices at St. Luke's Methodist Church, 3839 Buffat Mill Rd.

This free event features international food, entertainment, and children's activities. The theme this year is "Y'all Means All." For more, contact AJones@BridgeRefugees.org or (865) 540-1311, ext. 9.

10. 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 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.*