



Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 10, No. 36 – Tuesday, September 26, 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 Not too Late to Register for National Night Out

If your neighborhood is making last-minute plans to participate in National Night Out next Tuesday, Oct. 3, it is not too late to register with the Knoxville Police Department (KPD) to make sure KPD attends your event.

The City will develop a log of events so that elected officials and City Council candidates, as well as KPD, all know to stop by. Please send the following information to both KPD Officer John Morgan (865-215-1519) at jmorgan@knoxvilletn.gov and the Office of Neighborhoods at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov:

- *** Neighborhood Group Name
- *** Location (specific address where police should show up)
- *** Beginning and ending times
- *** Activity (i.e. cookout, concert, ice cream social, talent show, etc.)

2. Last Call to Learn More about Blighted Properties

This coming Friday, Sept. 29, is the deadline for signing up for the City of Knoxville's "Fight the Blight" workshop series.

The workshops will be held on five consecutive Thursday evenings, starting Oct. 5 and ending Nov. 2, at the Public Works Service Center, 3131 Morris Ave. Doors will open at 5:00 p.m. The sessions will begin promptly at 5:30 p.m. and end at 7:00 p.m.

Anyone interested in learning more about blighted properties is urged to participate. This workshop will be especially useful to someone who is a member of an established or emerging neighborhood organization that is seeking to address blighted properties on a systematic basis.

Participants will learn how and why properties become blighted, examine the nuts and bolts of city code enforcement, and hear about public and neighborhood efforts that address blight. To participate, fill out the [online registration form](#). Or call David Massey at 215-3232. Applications must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29.

3. Task Force Seeks Nominations for Broadway Improvement Award

The Broadway Corridor Task Force (BCTF) has issued a call for nominations of businesses or individuals who have made the most positive impact on the Broadway Corridor between Fifth Avenue and I-640 in 2017.

Respondents are encouraged to nominate businesses or individuals who have improved the corridor through beautification projects, carried out exterior or outdoor improvements, made efforts to attract and promote economic growth and vitality, or worked to increase cohesiveness of the commercial corridor and the connected residential areas.

The winner will receive the BCTF's Community Improvement Award, which recognizes reinvestment efforts made along the Broadway Corridor in the spirit of the Broadway Enhancement Plan, a collection of improvement ideas derived from community input with guidance from the East Tennessee Community Design Center.

[Take this survey](#) to make a nomination. Respondents may choose from listed options or write in their own nomination. Nominations are open until Oct. 21. The awardee will be announced at a November press conference.

For more information on the Broadway Enhancement Plan, visit the Community Design Center website at communitydc.org/master-planning.

BCTF was established in 2014 to stimulate collaborative and constructive discussion among neighborhoods and businesses. The group comprises representatives from the North Knoxville Business and Professional Association, as well as neighborhood organizations in the Belle Morris, Edgewood Park, Fairmont Emoriland, Fourth & Gill, Old North Knoxville, and Oakwood Lincoln Park neighborhoods.

4. Mayor Promotes Brace, Ely, Butzler

David Brace, who has served as the City's Senior Director of Public Works for the past two years, will become Chief Operating Officer and Deputy to the Mayor, replacing Christi Branscom, who will be departing the City at the end of September.

Sheryl Ely, the Deputy Director of Public Service, is now the Director of Parks and Recreation with the pending retirement of Joe Walsh.

“David and Sheryl are already invaluable members of my team, and their hard work and great collaborative leadership will serve all of us well in their new positions,” Mayor Rogero said. “We have a lot of major projects under way, so it’s great to have such experienced and dedicated people ready to step up and take the reins.”

Mayor Rogero also announced that Rachel Butzler, the City’s Solid Waste Manager, will be promoted to Deputy Director of Public Service to fill Ely’s position.

Brace has been with the City of Knoxville for 15 years. Since 2015, he has overseen all of the City’s Public Works departments: Public Service, Parks and Recreation, Engineering, Fleet Services, and Plans Review and Inspections.

As COO, he will continue to have broad oversight over those departments as well as Finance, Purchasing, Information Systems, Employee Benefits and other departments. He will have assistance from Chip Barry, who as Deputy Chief of Operations will oversee the City’s 311 service, real estate operations, and the public assembly facilities managed under contract by SMG.

5. Testify on Blighted Properties at Public Officer Hearing

Twelve properties are on the [agenda](#) for the City’s next [Public Officer Hearing](#) at 9:30 a.m. this Friday, September 29. Neighbors affected by these properties may wish to be present to testify on their impact on the neighborhood.

The Public Officer --- David Brace, director of the Public Service Department --- will hear testimony on buildings that inspectors contend are in violation of the city’s building codes. Testimony can also be made by the property owners, neighbors, neighborhood groups, and other stakeholders, such as lien holders.

The Public Officer then decides whether to issue an order requiring that the violations be addressed in a certain period of time. Failure by the owner to cure the problem may result in the boarding or demolition of a structure, or the cleanup of a dirty or overgrown lot, with costs billed to the owner. A property owner may appeal the Public Officer’s decision to the [Better Building Board](#) and, ultimately, to Chancery Court.

The properties to be heard for repair/demolition orders include 3501 Chapman Highway (Billboard Only)-Commercial Property, 124 South Concord Street (All Structures)-Commercial Property, 4410 Dorado Drive, 925 Farragut Avenue (Including Accessory Structure), 113 Fort Hill Road, 3115 Johnston Street, 2419 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue (Commercial Property), and 2223 Mississippi Avenue.

In addition, there will be a hearing for confirmation of previously issued emergency repair and/or demolition orders for 1620 Robert Huff Lane, 810 Spring Drive, 814 Spring Drive, 2316 Wilson Avenue, and 2324 Wilson Avenue (Including Accessory Structures).

If any of these properties are in your neighborhood, you may wish to attend the meeting to submit testimony about the impact of the property on the neighborhood.

6. Have a 'Community Conversation' with United Way

United Way of Greater Knoxville ([UWGK](#)) is looking to hold community conversations with small groups of people to discover their views on the greatest needs in Knox County and in their local neighborhoods.

Currently UWGK is funding 112 programs of 52 agencies in Knox County. But is this funding reflective of what the community thinks is important?

Instead of having a town hall meeting where all are invited, UWGK wants to meet briefly with small groups to learn concerns about local needs. Called "Community Conversations," these sessions might easily be incorporated into the agenda of an already-set meeting, or it could be a stand-alone event.

A facilitator will record all concerns on a flip chart. Using small stickers, participants will then be asked to mark the concerns they consider most important.

If you wish to schedule a Community Conversation, please contact Marie Alcorn, 865-521-5565 or alcornm@unitedwayknox.org. Additionally, call Marie if you have experience in facilitating and would like to help.

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 scook@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)
- [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.