

Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 10, No. 45 – Tuesday, December 12, 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. Eastport/Five Points Neighborhood Watch Wins at Winter Wonderland

Five Points Up held their annual Winter Wonderland this past Thursday, Dec. 7, 2017, in partnership with the Knox County Health Department. The event featured various forms of entertainment, food, candidates for the Knox County School Board District One seat, and community fellowship.

In addition to the entertainment and fellowship, Five Points Up hosted their first annual tree decorating contest at Hardy Park. **The Eastport/Five Points Neighborhood Watch** participated by decorating a tree with hats, scarves and gloves, which earned the organization a seat at the winner's table. After Winter Wonderland, the items were left on the tree for those in need to take at their leisure.

Sylvia Cook, president of the neighborhood watch, received the second place trophy on behalf of the organization. "I'd like to thank people who donated from KCDC. The donations were overwhelming. They had a little bit of everything like blankets and a few toys. I'd also like to thank...David Mack for decorating the tree."

For more information about Winter Wonderland or other Five Points Up activities, email Tanisha Baker at villageofknox@aol.com.

2. Good Neighbor Nominations Are Open

Nominations for the Neighbor of the Year are open and are accepted through Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2018.

Be thinking, “Who goes the extra mile to make his or her neighborhood a better place?” Perhaps they welcome new neighbors, volunteer to help neighbors in distress, or work tirelessly in service to the entire neighborhood and/or neighborhood organization. Or maybe they make everyone feel included.

The Diana Conn Good Neighbor of the Year Award is presented annually to a City of Knoxville resident who has devoted time and talent in service to his or her neighbors and neighborhood. The award is meant to honor someone who makes a positive contribution at the neighborhood level without seeking recognition for their service.

All nominees are honored at The Neighborhood Conference on March 24, 2018 at the Knoxville Marriott.

Fill out the [nomination form](#) and return it to Debbie Sharp either by email at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov or by mail to: City of Knoxville, P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN 37901. If you have questions, you may also call 215-4382.

To learn more about previous winners, see the [website](#).

3. Community Café Comes to Knoxville

The Office of Neighborhoods-sponsored Community Cafe is scheduled for Jan. 6, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Morningside Heights Community Center.

Community Café is an adaptation of [World Café](#), a conversational leadership method that has resonated with communities all around the world. World Café is a process that uses the collective knowledge of community stakeholders to help provide more profound insights into various issues. Community Café seeks first to connect active residents across the city and second to provide community support for neighborhood-specific issues and solutions.

This event is open to all active residents of Knoxville’s neighborhood groups, with a focus on providing opportunities for lower income neighborhood groups to collaborate on neighborhood specific issues. There will be limited coffee and refreshments served as guests connect, or reconnect, with each other over relevant neighborhood issues.

For more information or questions, contact Hannah Freeman at hfreeman@knoxvilletn.gov or call 215-3456.

4. Upcoming Tour de Lights Delights Residents

The eleventh annual Tour de Lights kicks off Dec. 15, at 5:30 p.m. from Market Square. This event is a free, family friendly bicycle parade sponsored by the City of Knoxville and I BIKE KNX. Registration is open the day of the event.

Participants are encouraged to enter the costume/decorating contest beginning at 5:30. The following categories have prizes for the winner and the runner up: best adult costume, best children's costume, best bicycle and/or trailer, best helmet, best group theme, and best all around. Judges for the costume/decorating contest will be at the photo booth across the stage.

The 5 mile bicycle, beginning at 7 p.m., rides through downtown, **Historic Fourth and Gill Neighborhood**, and parts of **Old North Knoxville**. The entire ride is expected to take roughly an hour to complete. Prizes are announced after the ride.

Cookies and cocoa are provided by Mast General Store and Three Rivers Market.

For more information, visit the [webpage](#) or the Facebook [event page](#). For additional questions and comments, contact Kelley Segars at Kelley.segars@knoxtrans.org.

5. Five New Councilmembers to be Inaugurated

Join the City of Knoxville in welcoming five new members to our City Council on Saturday, Dec. 16, starting at 11 a.m. in the Large Assembly Room in the City County Building. All are welcome to attend.

Members being sworn in are: Stephanie Welch for District One, Andrew Roberto for District Two, Seema Singh-Perez for District Three, Lauren Rider for District Five, and Gwen McKenzie for District Six.

The Office of Neighborhoods is looking forward to working with the new Councilmembers.

6. Board of Zoning Appeals Meets Next Week

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

BZA meets next Thursday, Dec. 21, 4 p.m. at the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building.

Addresses on the agenda are 3804 Kenilworth Drive; 1524 Jefferson Avenue; 4214 Greenway Drive; 1955 Woodbine Avenue; 1700 N. Central Street; 3207 South Haven Road; 215 Bearden Place; 2039 Cherokee Boulevard; 911 Luttrell Street; 6751 Wilbanks Road; 3825, 3829, and 3831 Martin Mill Pike; and 6410 Chapman Highway.

Your neighborhood representative may choose to attend and voice the group's support or objections, if one of these properties is in your neighborhood or you have information to share with the board. The group can also request a postponement to allow time to meet with the applicant.

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 on the third Thursday of each month.

The BZA agenda is posted on the city website. Browse to www.knoxvilletn.gov/boards and click on Board of Zoning Appeals.

7. Save the Date: 2018 Fair Housing Conference

Mark your calendars for the Fair Housing Conference, Friday, April 6, 2018 at the Foundry from 7:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. The City of Knoxville works with the Equality Coalition for Housing Opportunities (ECHO) in strengthening the promotion of housing equality.

This is a special celebration to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act, as well as to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

8. Tennessee Environmental Council to Give Away Tree Seedlings

The Tennessee Environmental Council is providing free native tree seedlings to those who agree to plant their seedling on Feb. 24, 2018 and post pictures. The Council is providing 250,000 tree seedlings to be planted. This is intended to be the largest community tree planting in the country.

Tree distribution is planned for the week of Feb. 23, from the distribution center of your choice. Participants interested can register at <https://tectn.org/250ktreeday/>. Registration opens Dec. 1- Feb. 1, 2018. The Tennessee Environmental Council is also taking donations to cover the cost of the trees.

The Tennessee Environmental Council is a non-profit organization that aims to educate Tennesseans about the state's biosphere and advocate for quality environmental stewardship.

9. Learn How to Reduce Your KUB Bill

If you are interested in learning how to reduce and manage your utility bill, attend the latest "Savings in the House" workshop at noon on Wednesday, Dec. 13, at CAC, 2247 Western Avenue, in the community room.

The second is on Thursday, Dec. 14, at Lawson McGee Library Downtown in the public room from 6-7 p.m.

The workshops are free and last one hour. Participants discover simple ways to reduce their utility bills and learn more about KUB's Advanced Metering. Find out about energy efficiency and weatherization as well.

Offered by the Alliance to Save Energy (ASE), this workshop can also be offered to neighborhood and community groups as well. For more, contact ASE Program Manager Jennifer Alldredge at 615-830-1875 or jalldredge@ase.org.

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 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>*

*** Don't have Internet access? Call 215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.*