

Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 11, No. 06 – Tuesday, February 13, 2018

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Newsletter (PDF version): <http://bit.ly/NeighborhoodAdvisory-2018-02-13>

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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. Registration Opens for the Neighborhood Conference

Registration is now open for **The Neighborhood Conference** on Saturday, March 24, 2018, at the Marriott Hotel.

Plan on attending and bringing your neighbors!

Start at the [2018 conference gateway page](#). From there, you can locate the workshop descriptions, which you may wish to read before landing on the [Eventbrite registration page](#).

Anyone without access to the Internet may call Hannah Freeman at 215-3456 to register by phone.

Everyone planning to attend --- residents, speakers, exhibitors, volunteers, public officials, and sponsors --- should register so that we can generate name tags and order enough (free) boxed lunches. If you are registering for a group of people, you must register them one person at a time.

Neighborhood groups are encouraged to bring as many of their members as possible to absorb as much information as possible, return to their neighborhoods and share with one another, and thereby take advantage of everything the conference has to offer.

2. Conference Offers Workshops, Information, Awards, Networking

This large annual event --- 700 attended last year --- is designed specifically for neighborhood organizations and all those who are interested in improving and maintaining the quality of life in their city residential neighborhoods.

This is a chance for you to meet residents of other neighborhoods, compare notes, and learn from one another. Even if you are not yet a member of a neighborhood group, you will still find plenty to do, much to learn, and many interesting people to meet.

This is also an excellent opportunity to meet members of City Council as well as departmental staff members in both city government and some county agencies as well.

There is no charge to participate. Eat breakfast before you come or bring a morning snack. Coffee and hot tea will be available when doors open at 8 a.m. An opening general session at 9 a.m. will feature welcoming message from Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero and conference announcements. Other features include:

*** Over 80 information booths from a variety of governmental agencies and nonprofit organization will be on hand. Arrive early to take advantage of these resources.

*** Workshops in a morning break-out session will cover three major topic areas: 1) Re-Code Knoxville, the update of Knoxville's zoning code, 2) neighborhood improvement and community-building projects you can implement, and 3) how individuals and community groups can make a positive impact on the opioid epidemic and gun violence crises. [See the details.](#)

*** Following the free boxed lunch and networking among neighbors and public officials, Mayor Rogero will present the [Diana Conn Good Neighbor of the Year Award](#) as well as [Neighborhood Achievement Awards](#). (Applications for the \$75 Neighborhood Achievement Awards are still being accepted; see article below.)

*** Attenders will enjoy the spoken word art of Black Atticus, who is returning to this conference with a piece developed especially for those who work hard to help their neighbors and address neighborhood challenges and opportunities.

*** As always, the conference will conclude with a drawing for a wide variety of great door prizes. Watch this space as we announce the donors and prizes in upcoming issues of this newsletter. To donate a prize, leave a message with Johnathan Blevins at 215-2113 or jblevins@knoxvilletn.gov.

*** Parking will be easy. For those who use wheelchairs and walkers, or who otherwise have mobility challenges, free parking is available at the Marriott garage. For all others, park for free at the Knoxville Auditorium parking garage. You can then use the pedestrian bridge to walk across Historic Preservation Drive to easily reach the Marriott.

*** Accommodations for those with special needs can be requested when you register.

3. Sponsors Make the Difference

The upcoming Neighborhood Conference would not be possible without the support of several local businesses.

[Waste Connections of Tennessee](#), a reliable lead underwriter since this conference began in 2013, is back again as a platinum sponsor, followed by two other stalwarts, gold sponsors [Home Federal Bank](#) and [Cannon & Cannon Inc.](#)

Silver sponsors so far are [Coldwell Banker Wallace and Wallace Realtors](#) and [Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers](#), followed by bronze sponsors [Dover Development](#) and [Knoxville Area Association of Realtors](#).

All of these sponsors are back for at least the second time. Please visit their websites and thank them if you get a chance.

The City of Knoxville is still accepting sponsorships for the March 24 event. To learn more, contact David Massey at 215-3232 or dmassey@knoxvilletn.gov.

4. Win a \$75 Neighborhood Achievement Award

What creative, innovative, think-outside-the-box projects has your neighborhood organization been doing over the past two years?

Whether your organization is large or small, well established or brand new, your group is encouraged to apply. The awards will showcase accomplishments by neighborhood groups during calendar years 2016 and 2017.

To apply, download and fill out this [application](#) and email it to David Massey at dmassey@knoxvilletn.gov OR mail it to Office of Neighborhoods, P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN, 37901, no later than 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 19, 2018. If you have questions or need a hard copy mailed to you, contact David at 215-3232 or the above email.

Neighborhood achievements are recognized every two years at The Neighborhood Conference. This year's conference will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at the Marriott Hotel just east of downtown.

Winners receive \$75.00 for their Neighborhood Organization to use on future initiatives. Examples of neighborhood achievements can include:

- Beautification and place-making projects, green spaces and community gardens, and other physical improvements to the neighborhood;
- Projects, events and activities that focus on connecting neighbors with one another, such as street fairs, potlucks, home tours, holiday celebrations, and neighbors helping neighbors;
- New or ongoing communication efforts such as newsletters, social media, phone tree networks, and welcome packets; and

--- Activities involved in launching, reviving, or strengthening a neighborhood group.

By applying for and receiving a Neighborhood Achievement Award, your organization can help inspire other neighborhoods to venture into new projects. Showcase your achievements and encourage other neighborhoods!

5. 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 photographs of your neighbors, your neighborhood, homes, streets, 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 24, at the Knoxville Marriott. Images will be grouped together by neighborhood, so this is a great way to showcase and promote your neighborhood.

Send your digital photos to dmassey@knoxvilletn.gov with your neighborhood name in the subject line. Be sure to include the name of the neighborhood organization and a phone number. Photo captions are optional. Call David at 215-3232 if you have questions. Please include a photo of your neighborhood entrance sign if you have one. **Photos are due Feb. 26.**

6. Deadline Approaches to Purchase Orchid Awards Tickets

Keep Knoxville Beautiful (KKB) hosts their annual Orchid Awards banquet, which will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 20, and the deadline to purchase tickets is this Thursday, Feb. 15.

The banquet is a fundraiser for KKB to help provide equipment, materials, graffiti kits, and more to neighborhood groups planning to do neighborhood clean-ups. KKB can also assist groups in getting volunteers and has planned several neighborhood bulb plantings.

Erin Gill, Sustainability Director for the City of Knoxville will be the night's speaker. The City of Knoxville's Public Service Director, Chad Weth, will present the second Felicia Harris Hoehne Award.

For more information about ticket prices and to order tickets, see [KKB's](#) website. For questions, email info@keepknoxvillebeautiful.org.

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 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.*