



**Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 11, No. 10 – Wednesday, March 14, 2018**

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Newsletter (PDF version): <http://bit.ly/NeighborhoodAdvisory-2018-03-14>

1. No Newsletter Next Week, Office Closed March 26 and 30
2. Keep Knoxville Beautiful Hosts South Knoxville Clean Up

**Neighborhood Conference**

3. Six Days Left to Register for Neighborhood Conference
4. Black Atticus to Perform at Neighborhood Conference
5. Nine Groups to Receive Neighborhood Achievement Awards
6. New Door Prizes: Big Ears, LaFetta's, Regal Cinemas, Plaid Apron, Wild Eggs
7. Ride KAT for Free to the Conference
8. Park for Free at the Neighborhood Conference
9. Conference Sponsors Provide Vital Support

**Other News**

10. Scholarships Available to Attend Fair Housing Conference
11. League Plans First Three Candidate Forums
12. Urban Ag Center Offers Family Garden Program
13. Five Points Up to Host Clean-Up on April 7
14. [Neighborhood and Government Calendar](#) (clickable to online calendar)

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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. No Newsletter Next Week, Office Closed March 26 and 30**

This Neighborhood Advisory newsletter will not be published next week so that the Office of Neighborhoods can devote full attention to the last-minute details of [The Neighborhood Conference](#) on March 24.

In addition, the Office of Neighborhoods will be closed on Monday, March 26, and all City offices will be closed on Friday, March 30, for the Good Friday holiday.

## **2. Keep Knoxville Beautiful Hosts South Knoxville Clean Up**

Keep Knoxville Beautiful (KKB) will host the second annual community-wide South Knoxville Cleanup from 9 a.m.–12 p.m. on Saturday, March 17. The event will kick off at Sam Duff Memorial Park, 4060 Chapman Highway.

The South Knoxville Community Cleanup was first hosted in March 2017, when South Knoxville was KKB's "Community of the Year." Over 300 people volunteered, making it KKB's largest volunteer event. This year, over 280 volunteers are expected to participate in the cleanup.

Participating community leaders from various South Knoxville neighborhoods will meet at the park, pick up supplies, and then disperse into their own neighborhoods to pick up litter. Individuals will clean the streets surrounding Duff Field.

Community groups participating include **Wildlife Habitats of South Woodlawn**, Boy Scout Troop 255, BSA Troop 36, **South Doyle Neighborhood Association**, **South Haven Neighborhood Association**, **Colonial Village Neighborhood Association**, **Island Home Park Neighborhood Association**, and **Old Sevier Community Group**.

Volunteers will reconvene at Sam Duff Park to get lunch and volunteer t-shirts provided by Smoke-Free Knoxville. For more information about KKB or this clean up, visit KKB's [website](#).

## **3. Six Days Left to Register for Neighborhood Conference**

There are now six days left to register for **The Neighborhood Conference** on Saturday, March 24, at the Knoxville Marriott.

The deadline for pre-conference registration is noon Tuesday, March 20. After that, you can still register when you arrive at the conference, but you cannot be guaranteed a free boxed lunch or access to the workshops.

Don't miss this FREE citywide neighborhood event of the year, with its Neighborhood Awards and Networking Luncheon, workshops, 80 information booths, recognition of the [Neighbor of the Year nominees](#), door prizes, and lots of opportunities to meet others, like you, who are working to make their neighborhoods safer, more livable and more friendly.

[Learn more and register](#). Those without Internet access can register by calling Hannah Freeman at 215-3456.

PLEASE NOTE: everyone must register. This includes elected officials, booth vendors, speakers, and conference volunteers. When you register, we have the information we need to make your name tag and reserve a lunch ticket in your name.

#### **4. Black Atticus to Perform at Neighborhood Conference**

Local hip hop and spoken word artist Black Atticus will perform at the Neighborhood Awards and Networking Luncheon at the Neighborhood Conference on Saturday, March 24.

This is a return engagement, and Black Atticus once again is composing a poem especially for neighborhoods and those who struggle to create community and a safe environment for all residents. Those who have heard him in the past know that this is a performance not to be missed.

With a growing repertoire and reputation, Black Atticus is also the host and coordinator of the poetry expo at the Big Ears Festival this year. [Learn more.](#)

#### **5. Nine Groups to Receive Neighborhood Achievement Awards**

Mayor Madeline Rogero will present Neighborhood Achievement Awards to nine neighborhood organizations at the 2018 Neighborhood Conference on Saturday, March 24.

The groups will be recognized for activities that improve or beautify their neighborhoods, increase public safety, bring neighbors together to create a sense of community, and provide vital information to their neighbors. The neighborhood organizations receiving the awards are:

- Edgewood Park Neighborhood Association
- Forest Heights Neighborhood Association
- Island Home Park Neighborhood Association
- Mechanicsville Community Association
- Morningside Heights Homeowners Association
- RiverHill Gateway Neighborhood Association
- Southside Waterfront Neighborhood Association
- We Care Neighborhood Watch
- Westmoreland Hills Home Owners Association

#### **6. New Door Prizes: Big Ears, LaFetta's, Regal Cinemas, Plaid Apron, Wild Eggs**

The world-famous [Big Ears Festival](#) has donated two weekend passes for a door prize at the Neighborhood Conference.

Big Ears begins on the Thursday afternoon prior to the conference and ends the next Sunday evening, so whoever walks away from the conference with those passes --- worth \$200 each --- will be able to enjoy the music for the final day and a half of the event.

Declared "one of the most quietly earth-shattering, subtly luminous festivals the world over" by The Oxford American Magazine, Big Ears Festival is a dynamic, interactive experience that explores connections between musicians and artists, crossing all musical genres while interfacing with film, performance and the visual arts. The

weekend passes include access to all Big Ears performances, screenings, workshops, and discussions across all venues, subject to capacity.

Other newly added prizes include 10 movie passes from [Regal Cinemas](#) and gift certificates from [LaFetta's Soul Food Restaurant](#), [The Plaid Apron](#), and [Wild Eggs Knoxville](#). The Plaid Apron and Wild Eggs gift certificates, \$50 each, were provided by a donor who prefers to remain anonymous.

See the full listed of donated prizes [on this web page](#).

## **7. Ride KAT for Free to the Conference**

Anyone coming to the Neighborhood Conference on Saturday, March 24, can ride KAT for free. Just tell the driver you are going to the Neighborhood Conference.

Take the city bus from all parts of Knoxville to the Knoxville Station on Church Avenue. It is then an 8-minute, 0.4-mile walk to the Marriott.

Or you can hop on the Blue Line Trolley in front of Knoxville Station. The Blue Line will run two hours early just for the conference. From 7-9 a.m., the trolley will drive onto the Marriott property to unload conference guests at the front door. Just be sure to tell the trolley driver you want to go to the conference.

If you are taking Route 40 /South Knoxville, tell the driver you are going to the conference at the Marriott. The driver can let you off at Hill Avenue before Volunteer Landing. It is then just a 5-minute walk to the hotel.

Visit KAT website at [www.katbus.com](http://www.katbus.com) or call Customer Service at 865-637-3000 to help you plan your ride to the conference!

At the conference, be sure to visit the KAT booth to get a free pass for the ride home.

Thanks to KAT for providing this service to conference participants!

## **8. Park for Free at the Neighborhood Conference**

The 2018 Neighborhood Conference will be held at the Marriott Hotel, the uniquely shaped building at 501 East Hill Avenue next to the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame.

The City of Knoxville's Coliseum Parking Garage C should be the first choice for most conference participants. You can enter the garage on Honor Our Troops Drive (a two-way street) or Historic Preservation Drive (a one-way street). [See the map](#).

After you park in Garage C, climb the stairs or take the elevator to the top level. You can then use the covered pedestrian bridge across James White Parkway to walk right into the Marriott front entrance. Easy as pie.

If you are driving to the conference and use a wheelchair or have difficulty walking, you can park on the west side of the hotel and make your way to the west entrance. Or you

can drive past the front of the hotel and park in the hotel garage. In the garage, take the elevator to Level 2 for a short walk into the main lobby, where the conference registration desk will be located.

If you do not have mobility issues, please respect the needs of hotel guests and park in the Coliseum garage. Also, please do not park in the Hall of Fame lot. The facility will be in use that day by another group.

## **9. Conference Sponsors Provide Vital Support**

Each year, the Office of Neighborhoods has a budget of \$18,000 to cover “miscellaneous meeting expenses” for its meetings, classes and seminars --- including the annual Neighborhood Conference.

This taxpayer-supported fund, however, is not enough to cover the full costs of the conference, a large event that typically draws 600-700 participants and offers a free lunch. Many conferences charge a fee to booth vendors, but we do not.

This is where sponsors come in, filling the gap and making this event possible each year. If and when you get the chance, please thank these companies and organizations for their support:

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## **10. Scholarships Available to Attend Fair Housing Conference**

The Equality Coalition for Housing Opportunities ([ECHO](#)) and the City of Knoxville, along with many partners, have scheduled the 2018 Fair Housing Conference for Friday, April 6, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Foundry.

Beneath the banner of "Golden Reflections of Equality," the conference will commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fair Housing Act, the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the PBS television show "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood."

Workshop topics included fair housing and tenant/landlord law, the difference between service animals and emotional support animals, and addiction and housing. An awards luncheon will honor community leaders and agencies for activism in civil rights.

The registration deadline is March 30, and the cost is \$65 per person. However, thanks to the support of community banks, 40 scholarships are available to community residents. To register, go to [www.echoknoxville.com](http://www.echoknoxville.com). To request a scholarship, phone Jennifer Bell at 865-403-1234, ext. 1228.

### **11. League Plans First Three Candidate Forums**

The League of Women Voters of Knoxville and Knox County, along with other partners, has scheduled three candidate forums in the current races for Knox County Sheriff and seats on the Knox County Board of Education.

Andre Canty, Dametraus Jagers, and Evetty Satterfield are the candidates participating in the District 1 School Board Forum from 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, March 22, at Pellissippi State Community College, Magnolia Branch, 1610 E Magnolia Ave. Mark Mellenger of WATE-TV will moderate.

Joyce Feld will moderate a Sheriff Candidate Forum from 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 27, at the City of Knoxville's Public Works Service Center, 3131 Morris Ave. Candidates Tom Spangler and Lee Tramel have agreed to participate.

A forum for the District 4, 6, 7 and 9 Board of Education districts will be held from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, March 29, at Fulton High School. Tearsa Smith of WATE-TV will moderate. The five candidates in those races --- Virginia Babb, Terry Hill, Patti Lou Bounds, Kristy Kristy, and Amber Rountree --- have been invited to participate.

To read all about the upcoming county and state elections, visit the Knox County Election Commission [website](#).

For a list of all sponsors and other information, visit the [League website](#). For more, contact LWVKKC's communications director, Kathryn King, at 865-621-9179.

### **12. Urban Ag Center Offers Family Garden Program**

[The Center for Urban Agriculture](#) (CUA), located at the [Knoxville Botanical Gardens](#), 2743 Wimpole Ave., is offering seasonal or annual plot rentals so that individuals and families can grow some of their own food.

The plot rental includes use of one 4'x12' raised garden bed, seeds, access to community tools, and classes offered by CUA. A seasonal plot (May through September) costs \$15. An annual plot costs \$30.

To learn more or request an application, visit [www.knoxgarden.org/FamilyGarden](http://www.knoxgarden.org/FamilyGarden), email [cua@knoxgarden.org](mailto:cua@knoxgarden.org), or call 865-862-8717.

### **13. Five Points Up to Host Clean-Up on April 7**

[Five Points Up](#) --- a community organization supported by the [Knox County Health Department](#) --- will conduct a clean-up operation in East Knoxville on Saturday, April 7.

The event will begin at 9 a.m. with participants meeting at Eternal Life Harvest Center, 2410 MLK Jr. Avenue, to grab materials. The volunteers will then head back to their respective neighborhoods to attack trash. Participants should return to Eternal Life Harvest Center by 12 p.m. for a free lunch and fellowship.

For more information, contact Tanisha Baker by phone at 546-5125 or 215-5187 or by email at [villageofknox@aol.com](mailto:villageofknox@aol.com).

### **14. 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](mailto: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.*