



**Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory – Vol. 11, No. 12 – Tuesday, April 03, 2018**

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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. Developer Seeks Community Input**

[Elmington Properties](#) will host a community meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 4, at South Doyle Middle School, 3900 Decatur Dr., to discuss a proposed workforce housing development on Young High Pike between the Post Office and Captain Ds, and backing up to Sam Duff Park.

Elmington has not yet purchased the site. It is seeking community input and will present its ideas for the site. This is the same group that is building the workforce housing development at the corner of East Martin Mill Pike and Lippencott Street.

**2. This Thursday: Sevier Avenue Improvements Meeting**

The City of Knoxville will conduct a public meeting on the Sevier Avenue Streetscapes Improvement Project at 6 p.m. this Thursday, April 5, at South Knoxville Elementary School, 801 Sevier Ave.

Beginning in the spring of 2019, the City will install new sidewalks, lighting and landscaping along the South Waterfront business corridor – between Davenport Road and a new roundabout planned for the intersection of Sevier Avenue, Foggy Bottom Road and Island Home Avenue.

At this week's meeting, City staff will update stakeholders, including the residents of the Old Sevier community, on the next phases for the project. Vaughn and Melton Consulting Engineers, the City's design consultant, and other project team members will discuss the right-of-way acquisition process and timeline leading to the start of construction.

Also in the Old Sevier neighborhood, City staff, the Public Building Authority and design consultant Studio Four this month will update the community on the third phase of construction of Suttree Landing Park. The update will occur at the Old Sevier Community Group neighborhood meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 19, at South Knoxville Elementary School, 801 Sevier Ave.

### **3. East Knoxville Clean-Up Set For This Saturday**

[Five Points Up](#) is hosting its fourth East Knoxville Clean-up from 9 a.m.-12 noon this Saturday, April 7.

The event starts at the Harvest Plaza parking lot, 2410 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., where participants will pick up materials and equipment and then go back into their neighborhoods to pick up litter. Everyone can return to the plaza at noon to enjoy a free lunch and fellowship with neighbors. For more information, call 546-5125 or 215-5187.

Among many other partners, community groups include **Burlington Residents Association, Cold Springs Neighborhood Watch, Michael Meadowview Neighborhood Watch, and Our Community Organization**. City participation includes the City of Knoxville's Public Works Department and the Save Our Sons Initiative.

### **4. Save the Date: Fourth and Gill Home Tour**

Mark your calendars for Historic Fourth and Gill Neighborhood Organization's annual [Tour of Homes](#), scheduled for Sunday, April 29, from 1-6 p.m. Be ready for an all-star lineup of historic homes. Stay tuned for more information in this newsletter.

### **5. OON Staff Sends a Sincere Thank You**

The work to stage the Neighborhood Conference each year is led by the Office of Neighborhoods, but there would be no conference without the aid and support of hundreds of people.

As usual, volunteers were the glue that kept the conference running smoothly. See a list of all volunteers [here](#). Those deserving a special shout-out include Johnathan Blevins, Maddie Davis, Hope Ealey, Debbie Taylor-Allen, Jamie Harris, Diane and John Sharp,

Drew Jeske-Polyak, Greg Taylor, Janna Cecil, Christine Doka, Sara Keel, Sue Stevens, Janice Tocher, Hilary Gallegos, and Kaye Bultemeier.

Speakers included Hilde Phipps, the Senior Director of Addiction Services at Helen Ross McNabb Center; Aly Taylor, a Project Director for the Metro Drug Coalition; Knoxville Police Chief David Rausch; MPC Executive Director Gerald Green; Gerry Moll, **Fourth & Gill Neighborhood Organization**; Dasha Lundy, **Burlington Residents Association**; Jennifer Reynolds, **Timbercrest Neighborhood Association**; and Christine Winton, **Mechanicville Neighborhood Association**.

Members of the Neighborhood Advisory Council contributed ideas and provided important feedback to our efforts. NAC members Anna Compton, Emma Ellis-Cosigua, and Amy Midis wrestled with the daunting task of selecting the Diana Conn Good Neighbor of the Year ([Kirk Anderson](#)). NAC member Derek Tate delivered the opening remarks.

Approximately 150 people --- including dozens of city employees --- staffed the [79 booths](#) that were set up by governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations. We thank all of you for your time and commitment to this gathering.

We also wish to convey our thanks to numerous city staff members in the Public Service, Communications, and Community Development departments who helped us with moving boxes and tables, getting the word out, taking pictures, updating the website and providing much-needed office support.

Door prizes were contributed by [over 30](#) businesses, nonprofits and individuals who generously responded to our request for donations.

Financial support came from [11 sponsors](#), without whom this event would not have been possible.

Without the immeasurable dedication of city staff, volunteers, donors, sponsors, speakers, and booth people, we could not make this conference happen. So, with our deepest appreciation, we thank each and every one of you for all of your hard work.

## **6. NAC to Discuss Neighborhood Criteria**

The [Neighborhood Advisory Council](#) (NAC), a 15-member body appointed by the Mayor, meets at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 11, at the Cansler Family YMCA, 616 Jessamine St., to discuss the possible introduction of criteria for neighborhoods to be recognized by the Office of Neighborhoods (OON).

This subject arose last year, when a group protested a decision by the Office of Neighborhoods not to include the group in the [Knoxville Neighborhood Directory](#).

The group was added back to the Directory while an NAC committee and office staff studied various ways to certify neighborhood groups. The Office of Neighborhoods will present its suggestions, which will be the beginning of the discussion on this subject. A

survey of neighborhood organizations and a public comment period will ensue before a final decision is made.

Also on the agenda, the NAC is interested in starting a forum for neighborhood leaders to aid in communication. The committee working on this will discuss their ideas.

If you are interested, come and listen to the discussion to learn more about next steps. For questions, contact Debbie Sharp at [dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov) or 215-4382.

## **7. You Are Invited to a Nashville Neighborhood Conference**

[The Neighborhood Resource Center](#), a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting Nashville's neighborhood groups, was represented at Knoxville's March 24 Neighborhood Conference and is inviting Knoxville neighborhood leaders to its first conference on Saturday, April 14, at the Barrett Conference Center in Nashville.

Titled "What Kind of Neighborhood are YOU Building," the conference features a total of 18 workshops, including break-out sessions on organizing neighbors to create positive change, to develop more inclusive neighborhoods, and to build on a neighborhood's assets. [View the conference booklet.](#)

The registration fee ranges from \$25 to \$65, depending on ability to pay. The registration deadline is Monday, April 9. [Learn more and register.](#) The City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhoods will be represented at this event. If you plan to attend, please contact Debbie Sharp at 215-4382.

## **8. Consider the Neighborhoods USA Conference in Birmingham**

[Neighborhoods USA](#) --- a national non-profit committed to building and strengthening neighborhood organizations --- is holding its annual conference this year in Birmingham, Ala., from May 23-26.

The registration fee is \$200 through April 17 --- and \$300 from April 18 – May 2. In addition to numerous workshops, the conference includes several keynote speakers, an awards luncheon, and neighborhood tours. [See the conference brochure.](#) To learn about the conference venue, conference hotel, and how to register for this event, [click here.](#) The Office of Neighborhoods will be represented at this event; if you plan to attend, please contact Hannah Freeman at 215-3456.

## **9. This Thursday: City Council to Meet on Homelessness**

Michael Dunthorn, who heads the City's Office on Homelessness, will lead a discussion on homelessness at a City Council workshop starting at 5:30 p.m. this coming Thursday, April 5, in the Main Assembly Room of the City County Building.

Speakers will include Mayor Madeline Rogero along with representatives from Homeless Management Information Systems, KARM, KPD, CAC, Helen Ross McNabb, Knox Leadership Foundation, Volunteer Ministry Center, and Volunteers of America. In

addition, other members of the Mayor's Roundtable on Homelessness will be present to answer Council members' questions.

Also, Council will hold a workshop on the Zoning Code Update on Wednesday, May 16, at 5:30 p.m., also in the Main Assembly Room. Requested by Gerald Green of the Metropolitan Planning Commission, this session will provide Council members with an opportunity to engage in an in-depth discussion of and ask questions about the first draft of the zoning code update.

#### **10. PARC Quarterly Meetings Open to All**

The City of Knoxville's **Police Advisory and Review Committee (PARC)** will host its quarterly meeting at the Lonsdale Community Center, 2700 Stonewall St., on Thursday, April 19, at 6 p.m.

Appointed by the Mayor, PARC is an independent committee dedicated to reviewing incidents involving police actions as a follow-up to KPD Internal Affairs investigations. As part of PARC's mission to improve the relationship between the Knoxville Police Department and the community residents KPD serves, PARC receives complaints, hears cases, investigates cases, and reports findings to the Mayor and the Chief of Police.

PARC's seven committee members are selected and then appointed based on their reputation for fairness and integrity, clear passion for public service, being a registered voter in Knox County, and not currently being employed by a government body (outside of the education field).

PARC encourages City residents to bring concerns about the Knoxville Police Department to the attention of the Committee. For more, call the PARC office at 865-215-3869.

#### **11. City Seeks Comments on Annual Action Plan**

The City of Knoxville will soon be seeking comments on the first draft of its Annual Action Plan, which will be available for a 30-day public comment period beginning this coming Friday, April 6.

The City's Community Development Department is in the final stages of drafting the 2018-2019 Plan. The document will describe how the Department proposes to spend funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

These funds, the total of which will be estimated at this time, will come from HUD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds for the year beginning July 1, 2018. The final version of the Plan will include actual funding amounts.

Starting April 6, copies of the Draft Plan can be found at [www.knoxvilletn.gov/development](http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/development) or at the following locations: the Department of Community Development, 5th floor, City-County Bldg., 400 Main Street; the Lawson

McGhee Public Library (main branch), 500 W. Church Ave.; and the main office of the Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee (CAC), 2247 Western Avenue. Citizens may also obtain a copy of the draft plan by calling the Community Development Department at 865-215-2180.

A public hearing on the draft Plan will be held at 5:30 p.m. on May 7, at John T. O'Connor Center, 611 Winona Street.

The City of Knoxville encourages citizen comment on the draft plan. Citizens may also submit their comments via e-mail to Linda Rust at [lrust@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:lrust@knoxvilletn.gov) or in writing by mail or fax to Linda Rust, City of Knoxville, Community Development Department, P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN 37901, fax 865-215-2962 or by calling 865-215-2180 for additional information. All comments must be received no later than May 7, 2018.

## **12. Livable Community Expert to Speak This Month**

[Active Knox](#) and AARP are bringing livable communities expert Jana Lynott to Knoxville for events during the last week of April.

The senior strategic policy advisor for the Livable Communities Team at AARP, Lynott will address the topic “What Makes a Community Livable?” Her presentation will focus on the role that community design and transportation play in the health and quality of life of people of all ages, abilities and incomes.

All are invited to a public presentation at 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 24, at [Bridgewater Place](#), an event venue at 205 Bridgewater Road in West Knoxville. Light refreshments will be provided. The reception following the presentation will be sponsored by AARP and the Knoxville Area Association of Realtors.

[Please register here](#) for this free event.

In addition, Lynott will give an abbreviated version of her presentation at the April 25 meeting of the executive board of the regional Transportation Planning Organization ([TPO](#)). The meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. in the Large Assembly Room of the City County Building.

## **13. 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, April 11, at CAC, 2247 Western Avenue, in the community room.

The workshop is free and lasts 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](mailto:jalldredge@ase.org).



#### **14. North Hills Hosts Plant Sale**

[North Hills Garden Club](#) will host its annual plant sale on Saturday, April 21, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at North Hills Park, 2419 Kennington Road.

Residents of Historic North Hills donate different varieties of hardy perennial plants and shrubs harvested from their own gardens to sell at this plant sale. In partnership with a local nursery, the garden club also offers herbs, veggies, and blooming annuals.

Several of the club's master gardeners will be on site to answer questions and give gardening advice. In addition, there will be a garden shed with bargain prices for gently used items, arts and crafts booth, and kid's activities. Proceeds support beautification of the neighborhood's boulevards and park.

#### **15. 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](mailto: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.*