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Newsletter (PDF version): <https://bit.ly/NeighborhoodAdvisory-2020-03-24>

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Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhoods, we report news important to Knoxville's residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-3232. News deadline: 12 noon on Fridays.

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1. What is a Social Distance Easter Egg Hunt

Are neighborhood folks looking for ideas to stay busy?

Sarah Johnson of **Historic Fourth and Gill Neighborhood Organization** came up with a great idea after seeing her sister's neighborhood in Charlotte, North Carolina, hold a shamrock hunt a few weeks ago. Many neighbors made shamrocks and hung them in their windows, and families walked around to hunt for the clovers. With St. Patty's Day behind us, Johnson thought it might be fun for Fourth and Gill to do an Easter version.

Anyone who is interested could make an Easter egg (use construction paper, print one off the Internet, or whatever creative idea you come up with) and post it in a window or hang it from your porch so it is visible from the street.

Neighbors could then walk around and look for the different eggs, or maybe, somebody could even make a scavenger hunt out of it!

If you are interested in this idea, your neighborhood can pick a date to have the eggs displayed and start hunting. This is a great way to stay active and do something fun and different with neighborhood families while everyone stays at a safe distance. For those who participate, enjoy!

Island Home Park Neighborhood Association did something similar to this with bananas in their windows. We have also seen neighbors dance in the streets, hold

porch concerts, and come up with other interesting ideas—all while maintaining social distance.

If your neighborhood is doing something fun to combat the Social Distance Blues, please let us know so we can share with others. Contact Debbie Sharp at 215-4382 or dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov.

2. 2-1-1 or the Health Department? Who Should You Call?

“What do I do if I run out of food, and I am afraid to leave my house?”

“Who do I call if I am not feeling well?”

Amid the growing concerns over COVID-19, these kinds of questions may be coming up in your neighborhood. Knowing who to contact and how to get the information you need can make a big difference.

East Tennessee’s 211 and the Knox County Health Department are both easily accessible sources of important information, especially during this time.

Use [211](#) to ask questions and get connected for all social service needs. If you need assistance acquiring food, reaching a counselor, navigating economic hardship, helping an elderly friend get their medication, etc., call 211.

Dialing 211 on your home or mobile phone should connect you to the line, but you can also dial 215-4211 to connect. Calling 211 connects you with a real person who can get you to the right agency or the information you need. The hotline is available from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The mission of the [Knox County Health Department](#) (KCDH) is to ensure conditions in which every Knox County resident can be healthy. The KCDH works to identify health threats, conduct outreach and education, and advise the community on health emergencies, like COVID-19.

If you have any questions about your personal physical health, call the KCDH’s public information line at (865) 215-5555. You may also call the toll-free line at (888) 288-6022. The public health line is available from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Health-related questions can also be directed to your primary care physician. During the current Safer at Home order, residents are being asked to call their doctor or walk-in clinic before visiting in person.

For all general questions about COVID-19 and the coronavirus, the City’s 311 Center for Service Innovation has added an interactive [chatbot](#) to its home page help answer commonly asked questions and connect you with resources. Visit the city’s [COVID-19 page](#) for more information as it becomes available.

3. City Needs Your Input About Fair Housing

[The Fair Housing Act](#) prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental and financing of housing, based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status (including

children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal guardians, pregnant women (and people securing custody of children under the age of 18) and disability.

If you would like to help ensure that housing access is fair and equitable in our community, please take a moment to fill out this confidential survey, available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

The [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\)](#) requires communities receiving federal funding for housing and community development projects to conduct a study on impediments to fair housing choice.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Rust at LRust@knoxvilletn.gov for the City of Knoxville and Dwight Van De Vate at Dwight.VandeVate@knoxcounty.org for Knox County.

4. March 31 Oakwood Historic Overlay Meeting Canceled

The Oakwood Historic Overlay meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, March 31, has been canceled due to COVID-19 and the “Safer at Home” order announced March 23 by the Knox County Health Department.

The meeting, hosted by Knoxville-Knox County Planning in partnership with the Oakwood Design Overlay Committee, was to discuss designating a historic overlay district in the Oakwood area. Community meetings and discussions about a potential overlay for the area will continue once it is safe to congregate again.

If you live in the Oakwood area of the **Oakwood Lincoln Park Neighborhood Organization**, between the boundaries of E. Morelia Ave., Harvey St., E. Oldham Ave., and N. Central St., please take this time to review the historic overlay options, current draft proposal, and ask questions on what the overlay might mean for you.

To view the current historic overlay for the area, visit [Infill Housing Design Guideline Overlay](#). All questions may be directed to Lindsay Crockett at lindsay.crockett@knoxplanning.org. To see the different types of overlay guidelines visit Planning’s [website](#), and take a minute to view the proposed [overlay guidelines](#).

5. PARC Meeting Postponed

Following recommendations by the [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#), the 1st Quarterly [Police Advisory & Review Committee \(PARC\)](#) meeting scheduled for April 16 has been postponed. Information about a new date will be announced soon.

If you would like to see scheduling updates in your Facebook newsfeed, follow the [Office of Neighborhoods](#) and [PARC](#) on Facebook.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the PARC office at 865-215-3869.

6. BBB and POH This Week are Cancelled

In light of the current challenges we're all facing in relation to the COVID-19, this month's [Better Building Board \(BBB\)](#) and [Public Officer Hearings \(POH\)](#) have been canceled.

The properties will be rescheduled to the next hearings, which are April 30, 2020, and May 1, 2020, respectively. Updated agendas will be issued at a later date.

7. South Knoxville Clean Up Postponed

[Keep Knoxville Beautiful](#) hosts clean-ups in different parts of Knoxville each year, with South Knoxville's clean-up scheduled for April 4. However, the clean-up has now been postponed until Saturday, Sept. 5, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., at Sam Duff Park, 4060 Chapman Hwy.

This event usually brings 400 volunteers to the park and other locations around South Knoxville. Due to the current situation with COVID-19, everyone is taking great care to heed warnings and distance ourselves socially from one another.

So, mark your calendars for a family friendly event in September.

8. Open Streets Postponed Until June

Due to continued concerns over COVID-19 and guidance from the Knox County Health Department, Bike Walk Knoxville has decided to postpone Open Streets Knoxville to Sunday, June 14.

The previously scheduled event was to be held on May 11, on Sevier Ave. The June 14 date will still take place on Sevier Ave., in South Knoxville, from Atchley St. down to Suttree Landing via Foggy Bottom St.

Please mark your calendar and come out to ride, run, bike and play on an open street! The road will be shut to all car traffic, and there will be lots of activities to get into!

Open Streets Knoxville is still seeking [sponsors](#) and [activity providers](#), for more information, contact Lindsey Kimble at openstreetsknoxville@gmail.com.

9. OON Seeks Input About Needs

Office of Neighborhoods wants to help connect neighbors in need to neighbors who can help and/or other service groups that can help due to COVID-19. We do not want to see people going without their needs met.

If you know of a neighbor or group of residents whose basic needs are NOT being currently met by a social service organization, community group, or support network, call 211 (215-4211). You may also email Debbie Sharp at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov with non-pressing needs. The Office of Neighborhoods will be providing updates to services people might need in the weeks to come.

10. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar (click link for online calendar)

Call 215-3232 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in [this Google calendar](#).

If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation 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 before the meeting you wish to attend. For an English interpreter, contact Title VI Coordinator Tatia M. Harris at 215-2831.

Other Calendars

Additional online calendars that cover events outside the neighborhood realm include:

- [Arts & Culture Alliance](#) (There's More to Knoxville)
- [Arts & Fine Crafts Center Classes](#) (City of Knoxville)
- [City of Knoxville General Calendar](#)
- [Parks and Rec Community Programming](#)

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: 12 p.m. Fridays.*

*** May be copied and forwarded via neighborhood email 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.*