1. City Seeks Input on Zoning Changes for Urban Gardens

With increased interest in community gardens and locally produced foods, the City of Knoxville is ready to propose changes in the zoning ordinance that will make it easier for individuals and community groups to establish farming on privately held land.

Anyone interested in community gardens, urban agriculture, and sales of produce from these gardens should plan on attending a public meeting from 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Monday, July 14, at Cansler Family YMCA, 616 Jessamine Street. The city's Office of Sustainability is hosting the meeting and leading the effort in consultation with other city staff and the Food Policy Council.

For the time being, due primarily to liability issues, the City will not permit gardening on city-owned property. But there is still plenty the city can do to encourage the use of privately held land for community gardens and market gardens.

Personal gardens will continue to be unregulated, and construction of garden structures will continue to follow standard permitting.

Under the proposed regulations, a “community garden” would be allowed as a “use by right” in all zones, up to a maximum of 10,000 square feet. Composting would be required in bins not to exceed five percent of the lot size.

Any garden larger than 10,000 square feet, or which utilizes hydro/aquaponics, would be considered a “market garden” that could be allowed as a primary use with a “use on review” in all zones, requiring approval by the Metropolitan Planning Commission. Certain regulations would apply to composting.

For both types of gardens, structures such as garden sheds and greenhouses could be permitted with standard building setbacks. Non-structure uses, e.g. plantings, would be set back five feet from the perimeter. No parking would be required. Registration of the gardens would be required with the Office of Sustainability, but no fee would be assessed.

Incidental sale of produce would be permitted on site in personal gardens and community gardens on site with a “Seasonal Sales of Produce” permit. In market gardens, on-site sales would be limited to produce grown on site, but off-site sales can also occur with a $100 permit that must be renewed each year. A business license would also be necessary.
Bee keeping would continue as a use by right, whereas urban hens would be allowed only for personal use under current regulations.

Feedback from the public meeting and from other comments will be addressed as the Office of Sustainability prepares final recommendations for ordinance changes, which would then route through MPC before landing at City Council.

If you are unable to attend the public meeting, you may obtain additional information after July 14 by contacting the Office of Sustainability at sustainability@cityofknoxville.org or 215-2065.

2. Slideshow, Stories Will Highlight History of Mechanicsville Cemetery

There are, unfortunately, many abandoned cemeteries in our area, but some neighbors and community members are struggling to turn these blighted lots into inviting and educational community assets.

One such cemetery is in Mechanicsville.

A group of Knoxville citizens working to preserve the Freedmen’s Mission Historic Cemetery on College Street are planning a lecture and slide show that will highlight the history of the cemetery and tell the stories of some of the fascinating and important people interred there.

Their stories will include the relationship between a former slave of President Andrew Johnson and a long-forgotten cane.

The free event will begin at noon Tuesday, July 22, at the East Tennessee History Center, 601 South Gay Street. Local musician Oh, Jeremiah will perform.

Nestled on a knoll behind historic Knoxville College, the Freedmen’s Mission Historic Cemetery is a valuable community asset. The graves there tell the history of life in Knoxville’s African American community. Its educational aspects allow students to learn more about the many notable persons buried here --- including two former slaves owned by President Andrew Johnson, the first black doctors in this area, prominent educators, and founding families.

Some of the notables buried in the cemetery include Dr. Robert S. Beard Sr., MD, the first executive secretary of the black YMCA; Ethel Beck, who helped organize the Knoxville Colored Orphanage; James Garfield Beck, a noted educator; and Laura Scott Cansler, who, in 1863 at age 17, opened a school for free blacks. She was Knoxville’s first black teacher.

For more, contact Carole Ann Borges at caroleann1@yahoo.com or 742-5494.

3. KPD accepting applications for Citizens Police Academy

The Knoxville Police Department is accepting applications for the next session of the Citizens Police Academy, whose goal is to create and develop a growing nucleus of responsible, well-
informed citizens who have the potential to influence public opinion concerning police practices and service delivery.

Graduates fulfill the critical role of providing input and information to their neighborhoods, thereby increasing citizen involvement on issues of mutual concern. The CPA is a 12-week program that meets Thursday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Training Room at the Knoxville Police Department. The start date has not been determined, but it likely will be either August 21 or August 28.

Topics cover the various capabilities and functions of the Knoxville Police Department. Class sizes are kept to a minimum, so as to foster an environment for individual attention and active class participation.

To qualify for the Academy, you must be at least 18 years old, live or work within the City of Knoxville, submit a completed application, and undergo a background investigation including a criminal history check.

To obtain a copy of the application, visit http://www.cityofknoxville.org/kpd/cpa.asp or contact Officer Adam Wilson at 215-1303 or awilson@cityofknoxville.org.

A Selection and Nomination Committee will review the applications and, upon consultation with the Chief of Police, will make the final selections for participation in each CPA.

4. RAIDS Online Provides Citizens with Timely Crime Reports

Knoxville Police Department’s crime mapping service --- RAIDS Online --- allows Knoxville residents a firsthand and real-time look at crimes occurring in the community.

The Regional Analysis Information Data Sharing website (RAIDS Online) is a national website that allows citizens to check on arrests and criminal activity. Visit www.raidsonline.com.

Users of the site can customize the interactive maps for their neighborhoods or view the entire city. If you input a specific address, or just review the map for all of Knoxville, you can zoom in on specific blocks and, for example, click on a burglary icon to see the location (the block, not the specific address), date and time, and type of property (e.g. residence or business).

Click on the “data grid” tab to see a spread sheet of crimes during a specific time frame or the “analytics” tab to see a crime frequency pie chart and other graphics.

Moreover, on the RAIDS site, citizens can sign up for email alerts detailing criminal activity occurring in their neighborhoods. The user will simply input an address and search radius to receive periodic updates for that specific area.

RAIDS Online allows KPD to share crime information with the community while helping to reduce crime, improve public safety, and enhance neighborhood-police partnerships.
The web site is updated within the hour of the report being completed and approved, 24 hours/day, seven days/week.

Also, stay tuned to KPD’s media releases and announcements via the department’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/knoxvillepd. The KPD web site has additional information: www.cityofknoxville.org/kpd.

Anyone interested in forming a neighborhood watch should contact Officer Ricky Gallaher at 215-1519 for instructions and information. The Office of Neighborhoods is also a resource for all types of resident-led groups; contact us at 215-3232.

5. Flier Lists Police Phone Numbers

When you need to call the Knoxville Police Department, you don’t need to be scrambling to find the right phone number.

“KPD, City and Emergency Phone Numbers” --- a flier created by the Office of Neighborhoods --- lists over 25 operating units within the Knoxville Police Department and the appropriate phone number to reach those units.

Included are the Drug Crime Hot Line, the Teleserv Unit, criminal investigations, animal control, safety education, the neighborhood watch program, the Citizens Police Academy, the car pound, and a host of other contacts. The flier (a PDF file) can be found here: http://www.cityofknoxville.org/development/neighborhoods/KPD_Phone_Numbers.pdf

Or call 215-3232 to have a copy mailed to you.

Feel free to reprint this flier for your members.

6. Neighborhood and Government Calendar

Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-3232.

Visit http://www.cityofknoxville.org/calendar/ for a complete list of meetings of various city boards and commissions. See the Community Events Calendar: http://www.cityofknoxville.org/events/events.pdf

If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to attend a public meeting, please contact Stephanie Brewer Cook at 215-2034 or scook@cityofknoxville.org no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend.

Saturday, June 28 --- 9 a.m. until last person is heard
“Coffee with the Councilman”
(Last Saturday of Each Quarter)
Vice Mayor and First District City Council Member Nick Pavlis
Bring your concerns or stop by to chat; open to all city residents.
Roundup Restaurant, 3643 Sevierville Pike
Nick Pavlis, 454-7216

Monday, June 30 --- 5 p.m.
Knox County Board of Education – Work Session
(Monday before the regular meeting and the third Mondays, except holidays or holiday weeks)
First Floor Board Room, Andrew Johnson Building, 912 South Gay St.
For agenda, work sessions, and other items:
Visit http://knoxschools.org. Click on “Board of Education.”

Monday, June 30 --- 5:30 p.m.
Pembroke Condominium Association (Last Mondays, except May and December)
Lobby of Pembroke, 508 Union Ave.
Jessie Brown, 525-6500

Tuesday, July 1 --- 4:30 p.m.
Dandridge Avenue Neighborhood Watch (First Tuesdays)
Beck Cultural Exchange Center, 1927 Dandridge Ave.
Lawrence Washington, 524-4498

Tuesday, July 1 --- 6 p.m.
Mechanicsville Community Association (First Tuesdays)
Fairview Recreation Center, 1628 Dora St.
Charles Wright, 637-1802

Wednesday, July 2 --- 5 p.m.
Knox County Board of Education
(First Wednesdays, except holidays)
Large Assembly Room, City County Building
For agenda, work sessions, and other items:
Visit http://knoxschools.org. Click on “Board of Education”

Thursday, July 3 --- 8:30 a.m.
City Tree Board (First Thursdays)
Ijams Nature Center, 2915 Island Home Ave.
www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/treeboard
David Vandergriff, Tree Board Chair, 215-2340, dgriff@tennessee.edu

Thursday, July 3 --- 7 p.m.
Cedar Heights Residents Association (First Thursdays)
5316 Cedar Heights Rd.
Jessica Abrahamson, Jabrahamson2012@gmail.com or 765-1047

Saturday, July 5 --- 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Dedication of Pavilion / Cook-Out / Community Fellowship
Bring a covered dish
Park at Church of the Ascension, ride shuttle 3 blocks to the event.
Lyons View Community Club
Lyons View Community Center & Playground, 114 Sprankle Street
Ron Davis, 607-8943

Monday, July 7 --- 4 p.m.
Love Towers Fellowship Association (First Monday)
Love Towers Community Room; 1171 Armstrong St.
Tom Higens, 206-8908

Monday, July 7 --- 6:30 p.m.
Parkridge Community Organization (First Mondays)
Tuesday, July 8 --- 11:45 a.m.
Agenda Review, Metropolitan Planning Commission
(Tuesday before MPC’s monthly meeting)
Small Assembly Room, City County Building

Tuesday, July 8 --- 2 p.m.
Western Heights Resident Association (Second Tuesdays)
Building to the right of the mail boxes when you enter Western Heights
Jamesena Nolan, 237-5558

Tuesday, July 8 --- 6 p.m.
Brown Avenue Neighborhood Watch (Second Tuesdays)
Hoitt Ave. Baptist Church, 2121 Hoitt Ave.
Jimmy Ramsey, 637-0243

Tuesday, July 8 --- 7 p.m.
Mechanicsville Neighborhood Watch Association
(Second Tuesday, First Month of Each Quarter)
Clinton Chapel AME Zion Church, College St.
Rev. Dr. John A. Butler, 617-2603, johnanthonybutler@gmail.com

Tuesday, July 8 --- 7 p.m.
City Council (Every Other Tuesday)
http://www.cityofknoxville.org/citycouncil
Agenda: http://www.cityofknoxville.org/citycouncil/agenda.pdf

Wednesday, July 9 --- 11:30 a.m.
Community Forum (Second Wednesdays)
West Knoxville Library, 100 Golf Club Rd.
Sue Mauer, 690-0269

Wednesday, July 9 --- 1 p.m.
100 Block Association (Second Wednesdays)
Dewhirst Properties, 123 S. Gay St.
Jody Freeman, 525-1554

Wednesday, July 9 --- 4:30 p.m.
Neighborhood Advisory Council, City of Knoxville
(Second Wednesdays except December)
CAC / L.T. Ross Building, 2247 Western Ave.
http://www.cityofknoxville.org/neighborhoods
David Massey, 215-3232

Thursday, July 10 --- 1:30 p.m.
Metropolitan Planning Commission (Second Thursdays)
http://www.knoxmpc.org
Agenda: http://agenda.knoxmpc.org

Thursday, July 10 --- 2 p.m.
Montgomery Village Residents Association (Second Thursdays)
4600 Joe Lewis Rd. #175
Ronnie Thompson, 604-6492, or Wendy Cavazos, super1mommie@gmail.com

Thursday, July 10 --- 6 p.m.
   Lonsdale Homes Resident Association (Second Thursdays)
   Community Building, 1956 Goins Dr.
   Phyllis Patrick, 323-7224

Thursday, July 10 --- 6:30-7:30 p.m.
   Greenwood Heights Neighborhood Watch (Second Thursdays)
   Corner of Buttercup Circle and Sundrop Dr.
   Alice Wershing, awershing@aol.com

Friday, July 11 --- 7:45 a.m. and 8 a.m.
   North Knoxville Business & Professional Association (Second Fridays)
   Breakfast at 7:45 am, Meeting at 8 a.m.
   Open to North Knoxville Residents, Neighborhood Groups, Business Owners
   Meeting location varies
   Becky Dodson, becky.dodson@hma.com, 545-6750.
   www.nkbpa.org

Friday, July 11 --- 6 p.m.
   Beaumont Community Organization (Second Fridays)
   Community Room, Solid Waste Transfer Station, 1033 Elm St.
   Natasha Murphy, 936-0139

Monday, July 14 --- 3 p.m.
   Northgate Resident Association (Second Mondays)
   Social Hall, 4301 Whittle Springs Rd.
   David Wildsmith, 219-0417

Monday, July 14 --- 5-6 p.m.
   Michael Meadowview Neighborhood Watch (Second Mondays)
   CAC East Neighborhood Center, 4200 Asheville Hwy.
   Marian Bailey, 525-5625

Monday, July 14 --- 5:30-7:00 p.m.
   Public Meeting
   Topic: Zoning Changes to Enable Urban Agriculture
   Office of Sustainability, City of Knoxville
   Cansler Family YMCA, 616 Jessamine
   Jake Tisinger, 215-2065, jtisinger@cityofknoxville.org

Monday, July 14
   Fountain City Town Hall (Second Mondays)
   Board Meetings: 6 p.m. Monthly
   General Membership Meetings: 7 p.m., February, April, September, November
   Church of the Good Shepherd, 5337 Jacksboro Pike
   Daniel Dunn, 387-6390, daniel.dunn06@yahoo.com

Monday, July 14 --- 6 p.m.
   Cold Springs Neighborhood Watch (Second Mondays)
   Magnolia Ave. Methodist Church, 2700 Magnolia Ave. (Harrison St. Entrance)
   Terrell Patrick, 525-4833
Monday, July 14 --- 6 p.m.
Lyons View Community Club (Second Mondays)
Lyons View Community Center, 114 Sprankle Ave.
Mary Brewster, 454-2390

Monday, July 14 --- 6 p.m.
Vestal Community Organization (Second Mondays)
South Knoxville Community Center, 522 Old Maryville Pike
Newman Seay, 577-4593

Monday, July 14 --- 6 p.m.
Old North Knoxville (Second Mondays)
St. James Episcopal, Parish Hall, 1101 N. Broadway
Andie Ray, 548-5221

Monday, July 14 --- 6:30 p.m.
Community Potluck
Historic Fourth & Gill Neighborhood Organization (Second Mondays)
Central United Methodist Church, 210 Third Ave.
Liz Upchurch, 898-1809

Monday, July 14 --- 7 p.m.
Belle Morris Community Action Group (Second Mondays)
City View Baptist Church, 2311 Fine Ave.
www.bellemorris.com
Rick Wilen, 524-5008

Tuesday, July 15 --- 6 p.m.
Delrose Drive Neighborhood Watch (Third Tuesdays)
Riverview Baptist Church, 3618 Delrose Dr.
Corina and John Buffalow, 523-0102

Tuesday, July 15 --- 6:30 p.m.
Lonsdale United for Change (Third Tuesdays)
Lonsdale Recreation Center, Stonewall Ave.
Steve Ritter, 973-0877

Tuesday, July 15 --- 7 p.m.
Edgewood Park Neighborhood Association (Third Tuesdays, except December)
Larry Cox Senior Center, 3109 Ocoee Trail
http://edgewoodpark.us/

Wednesday, July 16 --- Noon - 1 p.m.
Eastport / Lee Williams Neighborhood Watch (Third Wednesdays)
Lee Williams Senior Center
2240 M. L. King Jr. Ave
Sylvia Cook, sylviacook5901@comcast.net or 237-6940

Thursday, July 17 --- Breakfast - 7:30 a.m. Meeting - 8 a.m.
East Knoxville Business & Professional Association (Third Thursdays)
Open to Neighborhood Residents and Leaders
Meeting location varies
Doug Minter, Dminter@knoxvillechamber.com, Knoxville Chamber, 637-4550
http://www.eastknox.org/
Thursday, July 17 --- 8:30 a.m.
  Historic Zoning Commission (Third Thursdays)
  http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/historic.asp
  Kaye Graybeal, 215-3795, kaye.graybeal@knoxmpc.org

Thursday, July 17 --- 4 p.m.
  City Board of Zoning Appeals (Third Thursdays)
  Small Assembly Room, City County Building
  Pre-Agenda Meeting: 3 p.m. in Room 511
  http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/zoning.asp

Thursday, July 17 --- 5:30 p.m.
  Knoxville City Council Workshop
  Topic: Pension Plan Revision
  Main Assembly Room, City-County Building

Thursday, July 17 --- 6:30 p.m.
  Oakwood Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association
  Monthly Meeting (Third Thursdays)
  Community Club House, 916 Shamrock Ave. at Henagar St.
  Bill Hutton, 773-5228, s_wlhutton@yahoo.com

Saturday, July 19 --- 10 a.m.
  South Haven Neighborhood Association (Third Saturdays)
  Hillcrest United Methodist Church, 1615 Price Ave.
  Pat Harmon, 591-3958

Monday, July 21 --- 7 p.m.
  Historic Fourth & Gill Neighborhood Organization
  Board Meeting (Third Mondays except January)
  “Birdhouse”/Fourth & Gill Center, 800 North Fourth Avenue
  Liz Upchurch, 898-1809, lizupchurch1@gmail.com

Monday, July 21 --- 7 p.m.
  West Hills Community Association (Third Mondays)
  Executive Committee: January, March, April, July, August, September, November, December.
  General Meeting: February, May and October
  First Church of the Nazarene, 538 Vanosdale Rd.
  Ashley Williams, 313-0282

Tuesday, July 22 --- Noon
  Slide Show and Presentation
  History of Freedmen’s Mission Historic Cemetery at Knoxville College
  Cemetery Restoration Committee
  East Tenn. History Center, 601 South Gay Street
  Carole Ann Borges, caroleann1@yahoo.com, 865-742-5494

Tuesday, July 22 --- 6 p.m.
  Inskip Community Association (Asociación de la Comunidad de Inskip)
  Community Meeting (Fourth Tuesdays)
  Inskip Baptist Church, 4810 Rowan Rd.
  Betty Jo Mahan, 679-2748, bettymahan@knology.net
Tuesday, July 22 --- 7 p.m.
City Council (Every Other Tuesday)
http://www.cityofknoxville.org/citycouncil
Agenda: http://www.cityofknoxville.org/citycouncil/agenda.pdf

Thursday, July 24 --- 9 a.m.
Special Events Community Meeting (Fourth Thursdays, January-October)
“Meet with city services that may assist in planning your event.”
Civic Coliseum Ballroom, Third Floor
Free Parking available at Civic Coliseum Parking Garage
Office of Special Events, 215-4248

Thursday, July 24 --- 7 p.m.
Old Sevier Community Group
(Fourth Thursdays, February-October)
Stanley’s Greenhouses, 3029 Davenport Road
Gary Deitsch, 573-7355, garyedeitsch@bellsouth.net

Monday, July 28 --- 1:45 p.m. (zoning at 5 p.m.)
Knox County Commission
(Fourth Mondays, January-October. Third Mondays, November-December)
www.knoxcounty.org/commission
Agenda: Click on “Information” and then “Commission Agendas”
Public Forum held at beginning & ending of meeting
Zoning Issues heard starting at 5 p.m.

Monday, July 28--- 7-8:30 p.m.
South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association
Bi-Monthly Meeting (Fourth Mondays, odd months, except holidays)
Woodlawn Christian Church, 4339 Woodlawn Pike
Shelley Conklin, 686-6789

Tuesday, July 29 --- 6:30 p.m.
Chilhowee Park Neighborhood Association (Last Tuesdays)
Administration Building, Knoxville Zoo
Paul Ruff, 696-6584

Thursday, July 31 --- 3:30 p.m.
Better Building Board
(Last Thursday, January-October. First Thursday, December)
Small Assembly Room, City-County Building
Agenda: http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/betterbuilding.asp
Cheri Hollifield, 215-2119, chollifield@cityofknoxville.org

Friday, August 1 --- 9:30 a.m.
Public Officer Hearing – Neighborhood Codes Enforcement
(Usually held on the Friday following Better Building Board meetings)
The PO considers action on violations of city’s building codes.
Small Assembly Room, City County Building
Agenda: http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/betterbuilding.asp
Cheri Hollifield, 215-2119, chollifield@cityofknoxville.org

Monday, August 4 --- 6:30 p.m.
Wesley Neighbors Community Association
Sunday, August 10 --- 2 p.m.
   Historic Sutherland Heights Neighborhood Association
   (Second Sundays, even-numbered months)
   Marble City Baptist Church, 2740 Sutherland Avenue
   Marlene Taylor, 951-3773, taylor8246@bellsouth.net

Tuesday, August 12 --- 4-5 p.m.
   City of Knoxville Greenways Commission
   (2nd Tuesdays every two months) August 12, October 14, December 9
   http://www.cityofknoxville.org/boards/greenways.asp
   Larry Cox Senior Center, 3109 Ocoee Trail
   Lori Goerlich, Parks & Recreation Dept., 215-2807

Monday, August 18 --- 7 p.m.
   Alice Bell Spring Hill Neighborhood Association
   (Third Mondays except June, July, December)
   All are welcome to attend.
   New Harvest Park, 4775 New Harvest Ln
   Ronnie Collins, 637-9630

Tuesday, August 19 --- 6:30 p.m.
   Boright Area Neighborhood Watch (Third Tuesdays, Even Months)
   North Hills Baptist Church, 2901 Fairway
   Lola Alapo, 525-1520, BorightGroup@gmail.com

Thursday, August 21 --- 12 p.m.
   KUB Board of Commissioners (Third Thursdays, except July)
   Historic Miller’s Building, 445 S. Gay St.
   See www.kub.org. Click on “About Us” at top of the page.

Saturday, September 20
   9th Annual Mechanicsville Homecoming
   10 a.m. – Community Parade
   11 a.m.-8 p.m. – Celebration
   Mechanicsville Community Association
   David L. Gillette, Celebration Chair, 254-7319, dgillette33@gmail.com

** This Advisory is produced on most Fridays of the year.
** Ideas and contributions are welcome. We reserve the right to edit submissions.
** Deadline for news & calendar items: 9 a.m. Friday.
** May be copied and forwarded via neighborhood e-mail lists and newsletters.
** See past issues at our Website: www.cityofknoxville.org/neighborhoods
** Don’t have Internet access? Call 215-3232 if you need a copy of a particular document.