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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. No Newsletter for Two Weeks

Due to the demands of The Neighborhood Conference on Saturday, May 18, the Office of Neighborhoods will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, May 20 and May 21. In addition, the newsletter will be taking a break and the next issue will be on May 28th.

If you haven’t registered for the Neighborhood Conference, yet, register today.

2. Town Hall East Hosts Mayoral Candidate Forum

Join Town Hall East, Monday, May 13, 7 p.m., at the Fellowship Hall of Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 4904 Asheville Hwy., to hear from Mayoral candidates.

Fletcher Burkhardt, Indya Kincannon, Eddie Mannis, and Marshall Stair will take time to make introductions and answer the following three prompts before opening to questions from the floor:

1. What do you think are the greatest budgetary problems facing the city and how would you handle them?
2. The city has started to improve the Magnolia Corridor and to develop a plan to improve Chilhowee Park. Are you satisfied with the progress so far and what would you do to insure the continuation of or to enhance these efforts?

3. East Towne Mall / Knoxville Center continues to decline and to have a negative impact on the surrounding area. What could the city do to aid in the revitalization of this site?

The meeting is open and all neighbors across the city are welcome to attend.

3. **Lonsdale Market is opening this weekend**

The Lonsdale Market will be opening Saturday, May 11, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Lonsdale Community Park, 1317 Louisiana Ave. This date is in lieu of last month, which was cancelled for weather.

Come get a tamale, stuffed grape leaves, pupusas, cups of fruit with chili powder, and more! Those are just a few of staff’s favorite foods from the market.

From now until September, the market will take place every second Saturday of the month, except for cases of extreme weather. Check for updates on their [Facebook page](#).

4. **Vestal Community Celebrates Vestival**

Candoro Arts and Heritage Center hosts Vestival, an arts and music festival, on Saturday, May 11, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 4450 Candora Ave. This festival is a celebration of the Vestal area and its history.

There are plenty of activities, music to hear, food to eat, and crafts to purchase at Vestival. The Humane Society of the Tennessee Valley and other groups will be providing activities for children.

Proceeds from Vestival go toward the preservation of the Candoro Arts and Heritage Center and programs that take place at the historic marble building.

5. **Which Neighborhoods Are Interested in Playing Wiffle Ball?**

The 3rd annual Knoxville Neighborhood Wiffle Ball Tournament will be held **Saturday, June 29, 2019** at Victor Ashe Park.

Please mark your calendars and begin recruiting your teams. Team captains will begin meeting around 8:15 a.m. for sign-ups at the pavilion area and games will start at 9 a.m. with the tournament wrapping up by lunchtime.

Read carefully, as the rules have changes. For instance, there are fewer restrictions on the number of players. This is a coed event; it is required of each team to play at least **two** females at all times (not four, as in last year’s tournament). Also, a team can have as few as six players if they wish. Hopefully, these rule changes will help make
team recruitment easier and allow more neighborhoods to participate. Note that neighborhoods must be located within the City of Knoxville limits.

The main purpose of this event is to promote fellowship and friendship amongst neighbors and across neighborhoods and to have FUN! It can get a bit competitive, but we are primarily there to enjoy ourselves and not get injured.

Teams should have color coordinated t-shirts. Feel free to use the t-shirts from previous years.

If you would like to enter a team for your neighborhood, contact Mike at mrog91@gmail.com or 865-201-0202. Send your neighborhood's name along with your t-shirt color (which we are asking the neighborhoods to provide for their players). They do not need to be logo shirts, but they should all be roughly the same color. Start recruiting your players!

6. Countdown to The Neighborhood Conference

The Neighborhood Conference is one week from Saturday. Are you counting the days? We are!

We are enthusiastic about giving neighbors a great experience at The Neighborhood Conference on Saturday, May 18. It will be exciting to see neighbors be inspired, learn from one another, congratulate each other for work well done, and to be proactive in solving problems that arise in neighborhoods.

Registration closes on Monday, May 13, at noon.

Visit our website if you would like to learn more about the day’s events.

7. Save the Date for Mandatory Grant Workshops

The Neighborhood Small Grant Program will begin accepting applications soon. As part of the process, the Office of Neighborhoods will be hosting three grant workshops. Attendance at one of the three workshops is mandatory to be able to apply and receive a grant.

The dates for workshops are as follows:
Thursday, May 30, 6-8 p.m.
Wednesday, June 5, 6-8 p.m.
Saturday, June 8, 10-12 noon

All workshops will be held at the Public Works Building, 3131 Morris Avenue.

Staff will provide background on the grant application guidelines, paperwork, and the timeline, as well as answer any questions. Grant applications are due no later than July 29.

Please contact Eden Slater at 215-3232 or eslater@knoxvilletn.gov with questions.

8. City Takes on Adopt-A-Road Program
The City of Knoxville, in partnership with Keep Knoxville Beautiful (KKB), has a new program to help communities make Knoxville a cleaner, more vibrant place to live.

The Adopt-A-Road program is a litter reduction campaign designed to remove debris from local roads and improve environmental quality. With the help of community volunteers, the City and KKB will provide guidance and equipment to foster safe, effective cleanups along designated neighborhood roads.

Community members have the opportunity to adopt roads in their neighborhood, free of charge. It is up to members to host clean ups, but KKB will provide bags, gloves, signs, work vests, and trash pickers to all participating members. Additionally, City maintenance crews will pick up and dispose of all collected trash.

Members are required to host two cleanups per year with a three year commitment, and report the number of bags, number of volunteers, and number of hours spent, for each cleanup. For their effort, Adopt-A-Road neighborhoods will receive two, free, permanent signs, acknowledging who is caring for the road.

If you are interested in starting an Adopt-A-Road program in your neighborhood, please fill out the form on the KKB website.

9. City Council to Discuss Recode Vote

City Council will meet on May 14 at 3 p.m., in the Main Assembly Room of the City County Building, 400 Main St., to consider Recode, the effort to update the current zoning ordinances of the City of Knoxville.

Following a two year public process, led by Knoxville-Knox County Planning and a committee of stakeholders, City Council subsequently held public workshops to discuss Recode Knoxville.

Recode Knoxville is a comprehensive update to Knoxville’s 50+ year-old zoning code. Zoning codes help the City and the Planning Commission determine what types of structures, businesses, and developments can go in which areas. Recode Knoxville focuses on updating the current zoning code to reflect actual usage across the City, and planning for Knoxville’s future expansion.

To see how Recode Knoxville will affect you or your property, check out the Recode Knoxville Map. If you would like to submit comments for City Council to consider at the May 14 meeting, please submit them no later than May 10. Comments will continue to be reviewed after this deadline, but will not be discussed at the upcoming meeting.

10. Keep Up With City Meetings

City Council will meet Tuesdays, May 7, and May 21, at 6 p.m., in the Main Assembly Room of the City County Building, 400 Main St. The agenda for each meeting is available online the Friday before the meeting. Meeting minutes are available online the Thursday following each meeting. To view the upcoming agendas, visit City Council’s webpage or contact Will Johnson at 215-2075.
Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) meets on Wednesday, May 8, from 4:30-6 p.m., at the Cansler YMCA, 616 Jessamine St. The topic for this month is: “How do we engage young people?”

The Knoxville-Knox County Planning Commission will meet Thursday, May 9 at 1:30 p.m., in the Main Assembly Room of the City County Building. To view the upcoming agenda, visit Planning’s webpage or contact Planning staff at 215-2500.

The Historic Zoning Commission will meet Thursday, May 16, at 8:30 a.m., in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building, 400 Main St.

Also on May 16, the City’s Board of Zoning Appeals will meet in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building, at 4 p.m. For more on the Board of Zoning Appeals, visit the webpage or contact Scott Elder at 215-4473.

The Better Building Board (BBB) will meet on Thursday, May 30, at 3:30 p.m., in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building. To view the upcoming agenda, visit their webpage or contact Cheri Hollifield at 215-2119. When viewing the Current Agenda, be sure to check the date to ensure that the new agenda has been posted.

Lastly, the Public Officer Hearing is scheduled for Friday, May 31, at 9:30 a.m. You can view their meeting information on the same webpage as the BBB.

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.

11. Celebrate National Police Week

Peace Officers Memorial Day is Wednesday, May 15, during the week of May 13-17, National Police Week. Peace Officers Memorial Day is dedicated to officers who have been killed or disabled in the line of duty.

There will be a service at 10 a.m. on May 15th at the Knoxville Police Department’s headquarters recognizing fallen officers.

The Office of Neighborhoods is thinking of those who have lost their lives in the line of duty and the families they have left behind.

12. Bike to work day is this Friday

Most people know that biking is a good way to exercise, but in May it’s also a great way to get free food! This Friday, join the Knoxville Regional Bicycle Program for the 19th Annual Bike to Work Day for food, fun rides, and discounts all over town.

Pedal to Market Square on your way to work and be rewarded with coffee and doughnuts from Status Dough. Not sure of the best route or feel more comfortable as part of a group? No problem! There will be ride leaders ready to lead groups from East,
West, North, and South Knoxville. Please see the list below for information on where and when to meet:

To ride with a group in your area to Market Square, see the times below.

6:45 a.m., Halls: Meet at Ace Hardware in Halls Center, 6950 Maynardville Pike.
7:15 a.m., North Knoxville: Meet at Office Depot/Food City parking lot on Broadway, 4212 N Broadway.
7:15 a.m., East Knoxville: Meet at Holston River Park, 3300 Holston Hills Road (top parking lot by pavilion).
7:15 a.m., Bearden: Meet at Third Creek Greenway trailhead, 130 Forest Park Blvd.
7:30 a.m., South Knoxville: Meet at 3701 Sevierville Pike (southeast corner of Sevierville Pike and Lancaster).

Remember to check out the discounts, available to those who choose to ride their bikes for the entire month of May, on the I Bike Knox website.

You might even see a few friendly faces from the Office of Neighborhoods - Eden bikes everywhere she goes, and Sarah bikes to the office most days.

13. Bike Walk Knoxville Hosts Open Streets

Open Streets, sponsored by Bike Walk Knoxville (BWK), is back on the street, Sunday, May 19, from 2 to 6 p.m., on Sutherland Ave. The portion of road between N. Bellemeade Ave. and Division St. will be closed to vehicles.

Open Streets Knoxville brings together community groups and local businesses, giving people of all ages and abilities the opportunity to walk, ride bikes, hula hoop, and much more - all in a setting that is fun and safe! More than a street festival, Open Streets Knoxville gives residents an opportunity to explore their neighborhood and local businesses in a safe, fun, and family-friendly way.

Participants can enjoy being physically active and visiting local businesses by foot or by bike. It encourages the use of active transportation and healthy living, and has a goal of giving residents an opportunity to rethink our streets as public space.

Beginning in 2019, BWK will offer one Open Streets event per year (in the Spring), as opposed to two in previous years.

14. 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:
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 email lists and newsletters.
** See past issues at our website: [http://www.knoxville.tn.gov/neighborhoods](http://www.knoxville.tn.gov/neighborhoods)
** Don’t have internet access? Call 215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.