1. **Next Step Initiative Hosts Second Block Party**

Next Step Initiative is hosting another “Block Party under the Bridge”, this time in South Knoxville.

Next Step Initiative is a non-profit organization focusing on providing services to those who are homeless or addicted to illegal substances. This upcoming Party will be held on Saturday, July 20 from 1 to 3 p.m. at Sam Duff Park, 4060 Chapman Highway.

This free event is a collaborative effort of various non-profits in the Knoxville area to provide services, entertainment, food, and art. There will be Hepatitis A vaccines, HIV/HCV testing, birth control education, wound care, Narcan training, voter registration, and more offered.

All are welcome to attend. Community members are encouraged to show their support through attending and/or donating to the event.

In May 2019, more than 10 organizations worked with Next Step Initiative to host a “Block Party under the Bridge” under the bridge located across near KARM on N. Broadway. The event was a huge success.

An East Knoxville version of the “Block Party under the Bridge” will be held Saturday, September 28, 2019. More details to follow in upcoming newsletters.

For more, contact Rebecca Parr of Next Step Initiative at 566-1653.

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2. **NAC Takes July Off**
The Office of Neighborhoods’ Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) will not meet in July. The council meets once a month, except for July and December.

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. in the community meeting room of the Cansler YMCA, 616 Jessamine Street.

The next NAC meeting will be Wednesday, Aug. 14, and the subject will be a new program from the Office of Neighborhoods that focuses on best practices and a tier system for recognizing neighborhood organizations.

For more information on the Council, contact Debbie Sharp at dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-3232.

3. August Date of National Night Out Approaching

Shining a spotlight on community police programs, National Night Out increases connections between police officers and the neighborhoods they serve.

The national date of celebration is the first Tuesday in Aug., which will be Aug. 6, this year; however Knoxville celebrates the first Tuesday in Oct., which will be Oct. 1. Neighborhoods have the opportunity to celebrate on the first Tuesday in Aug. OR Oct.

For the first time, the Office of Neighborhoods is instituting a new neighborhood contest for National Night Out. All neighborhoods are encouraged to participate in the National Night Out contest, regardless of whether they celebrate in Aug. or Oct.

The contest features three winning categories:

- Most interesting theme
- Most people
- Most creative activity

To win, your neighborhood must submit photos as evidence. Photos from camera phones and electronic devices are great; just make sure to take them and submit!

We are also asking neighborhoods to nominate their officer liaison as the best in Knoxville, so be thinking about this. We want to see what you all think of your officer liaisons and we want to hear all the great things they do for your neighborhood!

If you plan to celebrate, please let us know which one you plan to choose. Email Eden Slater at eslater@knoxvilletn.gov AND Officer John Morgan at jmorgan@knoxvilletn.gov with the following information:

- Date
- Time
- Place
- Contact Person
- Contact Person’s email
- Type of activity (i.e. Chili Cook-off, Porch lights only, Pot Luck, etc.)
When you register with us, you will receive **two yard signs** to help guide people to your event.

For more information, contact Eden Slater at eslater@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-2113.

**4. League Hosts Council Forum**

The League of Women Voters of Knoxville, Knox County is hosting a City Council candidate forum this evening, Tuesday, July 9, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the News Sentinel Building, 2332 News Sentinel Drive.

Candidates planning on attending include: Lynne Fugate, Charles F. Lomax Jr., David Hayes, Janet Testerman, Amy Midis, Amelia Parker, Hubert Smith, Bob Thomas, David Williams, Charles Al-Bawi and Charles Allen Thomas.

Join the group in learning about the candidates and their positions. All are encouraged to attend.

This event is co-sponsored by Centro Hispano, the Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Knoxville Chapter of the NAACP, the Greater Knoxville Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Knoxville Area Urban League Young Professionals and the News Sentinel.

**5. Planning Commission to Meet on July 11**

*The Knoxville-Knox County Planning Commission* will meet Thursday, July 11, at 1:30 p.m., in the City County Building Main Assembly Room, 400 Main St.

This month, there are 51 items on the agenda with 15 of them being in the City. To see if any of these properties might affect your neighborhood, check out the **agenda**.

To learn more about Knoxville-Knox County Planning, and how the process works, visit Planning’s **website**. To look up a property in your area, check the status of a property on the list, or see a map-view of developments near you, check out the new **Groundbrakers Application**.

**6. Knoxville SOUP Seeks Proposals**

The next Knoxville SOUP is coming up quickly! Knoxville SOUP is a grassroots, volunteer-run organization that holds quarterly events at rotating locations to help raise money for projects that benefit the community. The next Knoxville SOUP will be Tuesday, Aug. 13, at the South Knoxville Community Center, 522 Maryville Pike.

SOUP attendees pay a suggested donation of $5 for entrance to the event. All receive a meal of soup and salad and one ticket for door prizes. Additional door prize tickets are for sale. Because all the food, supplies, and door prizes are donated, the winning project of the night receives **all** of the money collected during the night. Most recently, Sleeves4Needs won over $1000 for their Summer Lawn Care project.

For the August 2019 SOUP, proposals will be accepted up to Sunday, Aug. 4.
Individuals, businesses, non-profits, community groups, schools, and neighborhood groups are welcome to submit their project proposals for consideration. Projects must be focused in Knox County. Up to four projects are chosen to present at each quarterly SOUP event. Attendees listen to proposals and vote for their favorite. The project with the most votes wins the cash pot.

The SOUP application consists of four simple questions and is available at the Knoxville SOUP website.

For more information, contact Betsy Pickle at 405-3512 or betsypickle@yahoo.com.

7. 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

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.knoxvilletn.gov/neighborhoods
** Don’t have internet access? Call 215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.