



The Neighborly Notice – Vol. 17, No. 14 – Tuesday, April 9, 2024

To subscribe to this newsletter via email, fill out this form at <http://eepurl.com/b2Rk9T>. You will then receive an automated email. Reply to this automated email to secure your free subscription.

Newsletter (PDF version): <https://bit.ly/NeighborlyNotice-2024-04-09>

1. Winner Announced for Inaugural Kickball Tournament
2. Let's Exchange Information
3. Neighborhood Advisory Council Tours Public Safety Complex
4. Knoxville Participates in City Nature Challenge
5. City Council Hosts Workshop
6. Board of Zoning Appeals Meets April 16
7. Housing and Neighborhood Development Requests Input
8. Public Meeting Offered for Fair Housing Equity Plan
9. Keep Knoxville Beautiful Hosts South Knoxville Community Cleanup
10. Justice Knox Holds Nehemiah Action Assembly This Evening
11. Bike Walk Knoxville Organizes Walk with Elected Officials
12. Today is Eid al-Fitr
13. [Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar](#) (click link for online calendar)

Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhood Empowerment, we report news important to Knoxville's residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 865-215-3232. News deadline: 12 noon on Fridays.

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KnoxvilleNeighborhoods>

1. Winner Announced for Inaugural Kickball Tournament

Congratulations to the **Westwood Homeowners Association** kickball team for winning the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment's (ONE) Inaugural Kickball Tournament!

Westwood went head-to-head with the **Historic Fourth and Gill Neighborhood Association team** in a "Winner Takes All" game Saturday at Ridley Helton Park..

This event was a great opportunity to engage neighbors, get outside on a beautiful day, and have some fun! We appreciate both neighborhoods that participated and came out and cheered.

Neighborhoods participating in ONE's [Healthy Knoxville Program](#) got to count this event as one of their physical activities. For more information about the Healthy Knoxville Program, please contact Hayley Howard at HHoward@KnoxvilleTN.Gov.

You might want to start practicing now if you want to play next year! We have some amazing neighborhood teams!

2. Let's Exchange Information

The [Office of Neighborhood Empowerment](#) (ONE) is hosting its first Neighborhood Exchange event this week on Thursday, April 11, from 5-7 p.m. at the Larry Cox Senior Center, 3109 Ocoee Trail, and then again on Friday, April 12, from 12-4 p.m. at the City County Building, 400 Main St., Suite 546.

Carve out some time to come meet neighborhood folks, update your information, and round up some new resources. These are open house-style meetings, so you can come any time.

This event is for members of existing neighborhood organizations, as well as anyone who is interested in starting a neighborhood organization in their community. At the event, we will reintroduce ourselves and what we do, provide information about our programming and available resources to neighborhoods, and in exchange, we want to gather updated information about your organization and the fun things your community does throughout the year!

For more information, please email Shannett Riley at SRiley@KnoxvilleTN.Gov.

3. Neighborhood Advisory Council Tours Public Safety Complex

The [Neighborhood Advisory Council](#) (NAC) will tour the Public Safety Complex on Thursday, April 18, in place of their meeting on Wednesday, April 10.

The NAC usually meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 4:30 p.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City County Building, 400 Main St.

The NAC members are appointed by the Mayor to:

- Give advice and feedback on the programs and policies of the Office of Neighborhoods;
- Bring neighborhood issues and concerns to the attention of the Mayor and City Administration;
- Propose to the Administration responses and solutions to address these concerns; and
- Serve as a sounding board for City initiatives and proposals affecting neighborhoods.

The NAC advises and provides input to the Mayor and the City Administration. As a matter of policy, it does not advise Knoxville City Council, Knoxville Knox County Planning, or other elected and appointed bodies; however, they may speak on behalf of their neighborhoods or as individuals.

For more information about the NAC, please contact Debbie Sharp at DSharp@KnoxvilleTN.Gov.

4. Knoxville Participates in City Nature Challenge

The [Tennessee Butterfly Monitoring Network](#) and [Zoo Knoxville](#), in partnership with the City of Knoxville, [Discover Life in America](#), [Sierra Club](#), and [Ijams Nature Center](#) are coordinating the 2024 City Nature Challenge for the Knoxville area on Friday, April 26, thru Monday, April 29.

The [City Nature Challenge](#) is where cities all over the world collaborate to observe as much wildlife – wild plants, animals, fungi, insects, etc. – as possible in a four-day period.

This year Ijams Nature Center is hosting a myriad of events so that folks can observe many kinds of wildlife. For example, there will be a night hike to spot amphibians, and one to spot nocturnal critters. There will also be walks to identify fungi, trees, birds, wildflowers, beetles, bees, and butterflies. See Ijams Nature Center's [website](#) for the different workshops, schedules, and links to register.

If you register for the City Nature Challenge, you will get free parking at Ijams for the day.

What does it mean to observe wildlife? In this case, it means to take photos of and upload to a website. You do not need to know what species something is. All you need to do is take photos and upload them to iNaturalist.

What are the steps to observe and document?

- Download the iNaturalist app at www.iNaturalist.org to your smartphone
- Create an account for yourself

- Take photos of the wildlife at different angles, if possible, while on the app

What if you don't have a smartphone? You may still take photos with a camera and then upload them to iNaturalist later.

5. City Council Hosts Workshop

The Knoxville City Council will hold a workshop on Thursday, April 11, at 5 p.m. in the Small Assembly Room of the City-County Building, 400 Main St., to provide an overview of the City's activities in pursuit of streamlining and optimizing Development Services.

The presentation will include an update from the City's [Plans Review & Inspections](#) and Engineering departments regarding modernization of policies, processes, staffing, technology, and customer service.

The media and public are welcome to attend.

The City of Knoxville ensures meaningful access to City programs, services, and activities to comply with Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II laws and reasonably provides translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids and services.

To request language translation services, contact the Human Resources Department at titlevi@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-3100. For disability accommodations, contact City ADA Coordinator Stephanie Brewer Cook at SCook@KnoxvilleTN.Gov or 865-215-2034 at least 72 hours before the meeting.

6. Board of Zoning Appeals Meets April 16

The City of Knoxville's [Board of Zoning Appeals](#) (BZA) is meeting next Tuesday, April 16, at 4 p.m. in the Small Assembly Room at the City County Building, 400 Main St.

Properties on the agenda include:

- 2448 Jefferson Ave.
- 1043 Craigland Ct.
- 6901 Nubbin Ridge Dr.
- 1900 W. Cumberland Ave.
- 2400 Davenport Rd.
- 7412 Bennington Dr.
- 10001 Kingston Pk.
- 130 / 134 Bearden Pl.

If you wish to speak on a property or be advised of an appeal, please be sure to sign in on the sign-in sheet that will be on the table as you enter the room.

There is a Zoom attendance option available upon request. If you need to request a Zoom link, please let contact Jennifer Scobee at jscobee@knoxvilletn.gov before Noon on the day of the meeting.

The City of Knoxville ensures meaningful access to City programs, services, and activities to comply with Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II laws and reasonably provides: translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids and services.

To request language translation services, contact the City's Human Resources Department at titlevi@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-3100. For disability accommodations, contact City ADA Coordinator Stephanie Brewer Cook at SCook@KnoxvilleTN.Gov or 865-215-2034 at least 72 hours before the meeting.

7. Housing and Neighborhood Development Requests Input

The City of Knoxville's [Housing and Neighborhood Development](#) is drafting its Program Year 2024 (Year Five) Annual Action Plan (AAP) update to its 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan.

There will be a public meeting on Tuesday, April 23, at 5:30 p.m. at the City's Public Works Service Center, 3131 Morris Ave.

All residents are encouraged to participate. If you are unable to attend the meeting, your feedback is still appreciated.

The Draft AAP is available for review and public comment at KnoxvilleTN.gov/Development under the "Reports and Plans" tab. Input will be accepted through Friday, April 26.

The AAP describes the proposed use of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding for programs beginning July 1, 2024. The Plan will allocate funds across four priority areas: Affordable Housing; Homelessness; Creating Economic Opportunity; and Neighborhood Stabilization and Revitalization.

Residents can ask questions or comment on the Draft AAP by emailing Linda Rust, Community Development Administrator, at LRust@KnoxvilleTN.Gov, or by mail to P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN 37901.

The City of Knoxville ensures meaningful access to City programs, services, and activities to comply with Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II laws and reasonably provides: translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids and services.

Individuals with a disability who require an accommodation in order to participate may contact the City of Knoxville's ADA Coordinator, Stephanie Brewer Cook at 865-215-2034 or SCook@KnoxvilleTN.Gov no less than 72 business hours (3 business days) prior to the meeting or end of the public comment period.

If you have Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and want to request language translation services, contact the Human Resources Department at titlevi@knoxvilletn.gov, or 865-215-3100 at least 48 hours (2 days) prior to the meeting or end of the public comment period.

8. Public Meeting Offered for Fair Housing Equity Plan

The City of Knoxville's [Housing and Neighborhood Development](#) is hosting a meeting to update residents on the creation of the City's Fair Housing Equity Plan on Saturday, April 27, at 10 a.m. at the Cansler Family YMCA, 616 Jessamine St. This meeting is a follow-up to the one held March 12, which was covered by local television stations [WATE](#), [WBIR](#) and [WVLT](#).

The City is developing a Fair Housing Equity Plan that will comply with HUD's "Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH)" proposed rule due to be finalized/released in Spring 2024 and with the current HUD rule on affirmatively furthering fair housing. The AFFH mandate requires that recipients of HUD funding proactively take meaningful actions to overcome patterns of segregation, promote fair housing choice, eliminate disparities in opportunities, and foster inclusive communities free from discrimination.

Once the draft Equity Plan is complete (approximately mid-May 2024), an additional public meeting will be held in conjunction with a 30-day public-comment period.

At the April 26 meeting, City staff and Community Solutions Collaborative (CSC) consultant Rob Breymaier will discuss initial findings, including data analysis, identification and description of fair housing issues, and gauge the community's considerations of which identified fair housing issues should be prioritized. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

All are welcome to attend.

The City of Knoxville ensures meaningful access to City programs, services, and activities to comply with Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II laws and reasonably provides: translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids and services.

Individuals with a disability who require an accommodation in order to participate may contact the City of Knoxville's ADA Coordinator, Stephanie Brewer Cook at 865-215-2034 or SCook@KnoxvilleTN.Gov no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

If you have Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and want to request language translation services, contact the Human Resources Department at ttitlevi@knoxvilletn.gov, or 865-215-3100 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

9. Keep Knoxville Beautiful Hosts South Knoxville Community Cleanup

Celebrate Earth Day by participating in the eighth annual South Knoxville Community Cleanup, hosted by [Keep Knoxville Beautiful \(KKB\)](#), on Saturday, April 20, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Mary Vestal Park, 522 Maryville Pike.

[Sign-ups](#) close on Sunday, April 14, at 11:59 p.m. The event's rain date is Sunday, April 21, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Volunteers will be removing litter from South Knoxville roads, creeks, and parks.

There are three volunteer options: two to sign up as an individual and one to sign up as a group.

KKB will provide the following equipment:

- litter pickers
- gloves
- safety vests
- trash bags

It is recommended that you wear long pants, and all volunteers must wear closed-toe shoes for the event. Please bring your own sunscreen, bug protection, and water.

Please contact KKB at amanda@keepknoxvillebeautiful.org or 865-521-6957 with any questions you may have.

10. Justice Knox Holds Nehemiah Action Assembly This Evening

[Justice Knox](#) will hold its Nehemiah Action Assembly event tonight, Tuesday, April 9, from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Knoxville Civic Auditorium, 500 Howard Baker Jr. Ave. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Justice Knox is a local nonprofit focused on grassroots solutions to community needs. It addresses issues like affordable housing, mental health care, education, and public transportation. You can get updates on their ongoing work by following the [Justice Knox Facebook page](#).

The Nehemiah Action event is Justice Knox's annual public assembly at which they present proposals for change to public officials. This year they will be addressing the issues of homelessness, education, and economic instability in the Knoxville community.

11. Bike Walk Knoxville Organizes Walk with Elected Officials

[Bike Walk Knoxville](#) is organizing a walk with elected officials in the Marble City, Pond Gap, Sutherland Heights, and Kingston Pike-Sequoyah Hills neighborhoods on Thursday, April 18, beginning at 6 p.m.

The walk will begin at the Third Creek Greenway Park on Sutherland Ave. (with parking available across the street at Vreeland Engineers, Inc.), and will highlight walkability at West High School.

This walk will be an opportunity to engage with elected officials and community leaders about how policy, funding, and infrastructure impacts pedestrian safety in our community.

Don't forget to wear appropriate shoes for walking and bring a water bottle!

12. Today is Eid al-Fitr

The Islamic holiday of Eid al-Fitr begins today at sundown, when the crescent moon becomes visible in the sky.

Eid al-Fitr marks the end of the holy month of Ramadan, during which Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset. Many sweet and indulgent dishes are prepared for the celebration of the Eid feast that breaks the final fast of Ramadan. This is why it is sometimes called "sweet Eid." On this holiday, Muslims greet one another with the phrase "Eid Mubarak," which means "blessed Eid."

Happy Eid al-Fitr to all who celebrate!

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

Call 865-215-3232 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in [this Google calendar](#).

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](#)

The City of Knoxville requires a permit to operate a short-term rental property. Details and a list of short-term rental permits are located on the City's website [here](#).

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 865-215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.*