



The Neighborly Notice – Vol. 17, No. 11 – Tuesday, March 19, 2024

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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. Edgewood Park and Fairmont Emoriland Plan Garage Sale

The **Edgewood Park Neighborhood Association** and **Fairmont Emoriland Neighborhood Association** are planning a joint neighborhood garage sale for Saturday, March 30, starting at 8 a.m.

The boundaries for these two neighborhoods are Broadway to the west, Washington Pike to the south, Whittle Springs to the east, and a portion of Emoriland to the north. Here is a [map](#) of the participating homes.

Kennedy Grill food truck will set up at the corner of Acker St. and Ocoee St. from 11a.m.-2 p.m. for people to buy lunch and sit in the gazebo or in Edgewood Park.

The rain date will be Saturday, April 6.

For more information, visit Edgewood Park Neighborhood Association's [Facebook page](#).

2. Last Call for the Neighborhood Kickball Tournament

The deadline to sign up for the inaugural Neighborhood Kickball Tournament is Friday, March 22, at 4:30 p.m.

The tournament is scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 6 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Ridley Helton Field, 300 Jessamine St.

If your neighborhood is interested in participating, email Shannett Riley at sriley@knoxvilletn.gov for more details.

Do you want to team up for a friendly competition, get some fresh air and exercise, and potentially gain a trophy and bragging rights for the whole year? This is the event for you. The structure and rules will be similar to our Wiffleball tournament

Neighborhoods participating in ONE's Healthy Knoxville Program can 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.

3. Register for Final Grant Workshop

The final workshop required for Neighborhood Small Grants applicants will take place next Tuesday, March 26, at 5 p.m. via Zoom.

To register, please contact Hayley Howard at hhoward@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-2113.

The [Neighborhood Small Grants Program \(NSGP\)](#) strengthens neighborhoods in the city by supporting a wide range of community-based initiatives like planning an event, creating space for community, bringing neighbors together, etc.

Your neighborhood group must send a representative to one of the mandatory grant workshops in order to qualify for a grant submission. This representative must be the primary contact for the application if the group chooses to apply for the program.

The City of Knoxville has approximately \$20,000 available under the NSGP in the round of grants to be awarded in early 2025 for projects carried out in calendar year 2025. Awards to support one-year projects can range from \$500 to \$5,000 or \$6,500 if partnering with another neighborhood, public school, umbrella neighborhood group, or non-profit. To be awarded \$6,500, the applicant must have previously participated in the NSGP and turned in all required paperwork/documentation on time. Yes, the award amounts have increased this year!

Do you need some inspiration for a project? Check out the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment's [Placemaking Guide](#).

4. Board of Zoning Appeals Meets Today

The City of Knoxville's [Board of Zoning Appeals](#) (BZA) is meeting this afternoon, March 19, at 4 p.m. in the Small Assembly Room at the City County Building, 400 Main St.

Properties on the agenda are: 7109 Lavender Ln., 3700 Keowee Ave., 3636 Woodland Dr., 1108 Sevier Ave., 313 Hawthorne Ave., 9411 S. Northshore Dr.

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.

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.

The next BZA meeting will be on Tuesday, April 16, in the Small Assembly Room.

5. Celebrate the Completion of the Urban Forest Master Plan

Join [Trees Knoxville](#), the City of Knoxville, [Keep Knoxville Beautiful](#), KUB, and other partners in celebrating the completion of the [Knoxville Urban Forest Master Plan](#).

This kick-off event will take place on Thursday, March 21, at 9 a.m. at Dr. Walter Hardy Park, 2020 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.

Representatives will outline how partners will work to implement the plan and its goals, which include increasing the City's tree canopy from 38 to 40 percent by 2040.

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6. City Holds Baker Creek Ribbon Cutting

The City of Knoxville will be celebrating the completion of the new [Baker Creek Preserve](#) pavilion at a ribbon-cutting event on Monday, March 25, 4 p.m., at 3700 Lancaster Drive.

Located about three miles from downtown Knoxville, Baker Creek Preserve is one of the most popular trailheads in the [Knoxville Urban Wilderness](#). Baker Creek Preserve offers several unique experiences from an exploring run/hike, greenways, kid-friendly forest play, to challenging your skills on one of the several mountain bike trails.

In November of 2023, Mayor Indya Kincannon, City Council members, and South Knoxville neighborhood organizations cut a ceremonial ribbon and [officially opened the Preserve's sidewalk](#) in Baker Creek along Lancaster Dr. The new \$2.6 million amenity will have hardscape areas, picnic tables, a water-filling station, parking spaces, and yes, highly requested restrooms. This Lancaster Dr. sidewalk was the City's third major investment in pedestrian corridors in the past year. With these sidewalks, the City wants to enhance public safety while also connecting great spaces and neighborhoods.

Please come see the amazing new space just in time for the warm spring weather.

7. KPD Invites the Community to Central District Commander Forum

Central district neighbors are invited to [Knoxville Police Department's](#) Central District Commander Forum on Tuesday, March 26, from 6-7 p.m., at Christ Chapel, 1538 Highland Ave.

The Central District is made up of South Knoxville, Downtown, a portion of **Old North Knoxville, Inc.**, and **Historic Fort Sanders Neighborhood Society**.

The goal of the forum is to meet with community members and discuss current crime and ongoing issues within the Central District and what the department is doing to resolve those issues.

Central District Commander Sammy Shaffer and his support staff will be there to speak with residents regarding their public safety concerns and what they can do to address them.

You can review the Field Operation District Beat Map [here](#).

8. Sign Up For Community Emergency Response Training

The [Knoxville Knox County Emergency Management Agency](#) (KEMA) will be providing Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) for community members to learn emergency preparedness skills and how to respond to the needs of their family, friends, and neighbors before responders arrive.

This free training will take place from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on the following Saturdays:

- March 23
- April 6
- April 20
- May 4

If you are interested, there are still spaces to [sign-up](#).

CERT is a nationally supported initiative KEMA in partnership with local emergency response agencies. The Knox County CERT program is focused on personal preparedness training and connecting people with local volunteer agencies for response opportunities.

Please reach out to Sarah DeLozier at sdelozier@knoxvilletn.gov for more information.

9. CAC Holds Pancake Fest and Senior Expo

Come enjoy having local media celebrities and elected officials flip your pancakes!

The CAC Office on Aging is holding its annual Pancake Fest and Senior Expo on Friday, March 22, from 7 a.m. - 12 p.m. at O'Connor Senior Center, 611 Winona St.

Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased on the [CAC Office of Aging Website](#), at the Office of Aging (2247 Western Ave), or at the O'Connor Senior Center.

Stop by for all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, juice, coffee and milk.

Sugar-free and gluten-free options will be available.

To-go orders are available for pick-up and delivery within a five-mile radius with a minimum of five orders.

The Senior Expo will host dozens of vendors providing programs and services for older adults. There will be a free Covid-19 vaccination clinic, as well as a craft fair with items made by O'Connor Center participants. There will be live music throughout the day.

Call 865-523-1135 for more information.

10. Keep Knoxville Beautiful Organizes South Knoxville Clean-Up

[Keep Knoxville Beautiful](#) (KKB) is organizing their eighth annual South Knoxville Community Clean-up. The event will be held on Saturday, April 20, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. The clean-up will be based at Mary Vestal Park, 522 Maryville Pike, and will extend throughout the South Knoxville community.

If you're interested in leading a group or volunteering as an individual, you can register on KKB's [website](#).

For more information about the event, you can check their [Facebook event page](#).

11. What Is The Hindu Festival of Colors?

Have you heard of Holi? Holi, pronounced just like Holy, is recognized as India's most vivid and joyous festival.

It is celebrated by the Hindu community as the Festival of Colors, Love, and Spring. It commemorates the return of spring after a long winter, and it symbolizes good triumphing over evil. The holiday falls on Purnima, the Sanskrit word for full moon, and occurs during the Hindu calendar month of Phalguna, which corresponds with February/March. This year it is on Monday, March 25.

Spanning two days, the first night is called Holika Sahan, which is the evening of bonfires. The following day is the most famous day of the festival. Celebrants throw colorful powder called gulal all over one another, eat sweets, and dance to traditional folk music.

The cultural significance is a day to end and rid oneself of past errors, to end conflicts by meeting others, and it is a day to forgive and forget. People pay or forgive debts, as well as start again with those in their lives, which is aimed to generate harmony in the society. Holi also marks the start of spring, where people can enjoy the changing season and make new friends.

We couldn't find any local celebrations of Holi; however, you could try a local Indian restaurant if you were interested in learning more.

Have a colorful Happy Holi.

[12. 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.*