



The Neighborly Notice – Vol. 19, No. 38 – Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2026

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Newsletter (PDF version): <https://bit.ly/NeighborlyNotice-2026-10-06>

1. Neighborhoods Celebrate National Night Out Tonight
2. The Annual Wiffleball Tournament is Coming Up
3. NAC Member Erin Hatfield Helps Neighbors Connect
4. City Hosts Second Hill Ave Meeting
5. Residents Invited to Oct. 15, Downtown / South Knoxville Connectivity Meeting
6. PARC to Hold Quarterly Meeting
7. KPD Commander Forum Set for Nov. 3, at Bearden Branch Library
8. Waste Connection to Update Residential Routes and Schedules
9. Senior Employment Service Hosts Annual Senior Job Fair
10. Win a Gift Card from What's Next Knoxville
11. Keep Knoxville Beautiful Hosts Orchid Awards
12. Walk & Roll to School Day Set for Wednesday, Oct. 14
13. Leave The Leaves This Fall
14. [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. Neighborhoods Celebrate National Night Out Tonight

Knoxville neighborhoods will be celebrating [National Night Out](#) (NNO) tonight, Tuesday, Oct. 6, with chili cook-offs, music, family fun, and porch lights.

If your neighborhood does not have an event planned, join the City of Knoxville and community partners for a National Night Out Kickoff Celebration from 5:30–7:30 p.m. at Urban Wilderness Gateway Park, 1515 Tilson Ave. The event will feature free food, games, giveaways, music, and appearances by Knoxville Police, Fire, and Public Service staff. The City has partnered with South Knoxville Neighborhood & Business Coalition to make this event possible.

Below are the neighborhoods that have let us know they are participating in National Night Out:

- Amherst Helmbolt Community Association
- Cold Springs Neighborhood Watch
- Colonial Village Neighborhood Association
- Cumberland Estates West Neighborhood Watch
- Inskip Community Association
- Island Home Park Neighborhood Association
- Kingston Pike Sequoyah Hills Association
- Kirkwood Condos
- Lake Forest Neighborhood Association
- Lindbergh Forest Neighborhood Association
- Lonsdale Homes Neighborhood Watch
- Mechanicsville Community Association
- Michael Meadowview Neighborhood Watch
- Montrose Court Condos
- Morningside Gardens
- Morningside Heights HOA
- Northwest Hills Safety Community Group
- Norwood Homeowners Association
- Old Mechanicsville Neighborhood Interest (OMNI)
- Old North Knoxville, Inc.
- Old Sevier Community Group
- Parkridge Community Organization
- Seven Springs Homeowners Association
- Spring Hill Villas HOA
- South Knoxville Neighborhood & Business Coalition
- South Woodlawn Neighborhood Association
- Southside Waterfront Neighborhood Association
- Vestal Community Organization
- West Haven Village Neighborhood Community
- West Hills Community Association (celebrated in August)
- Westavia Woods Neighborhood Watch
- Western Heights Neighborhood Organization
- Westmoreland Hills HOA
- Williams Creek & Lennon-Seney United Methodist Church
- Vestal Community Organization

NNO is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.

Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and much, much more.

We hope everyone has a safe and great neighborhood Night Out!

2. The Annual Wiffleball Tournament is Coming Up

ONE's 9th Annual [Wiffleball tournament](#) will be hosted on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 9 a.m.-12 noon. The deadline to register your team is Friday, Oct. 23. Don't worry, we didn't forget about the holiday! It will be in Halloween spirit with a costume contest!

Gather your neighbors and come up with some fun ideas. Your team could be themed, all wearing dinosaur costumes, you could all be characters from The Addams Family with safety vests, or you could all be a different version of the same character.

If you and your neighborhood want to compete this year, please fill out [this form](#) for registration, or email sbradford@knoxvilletn.gov with the following information:

- Neighborhood
- Neighborhood contact name
- Neighborhood contact phone number
- Neighborhood contact email
- Team T-shirt color
- Team fun mascot name

Not sure yet? No worries, you still have a couple of weeks! We can't wait to see what you come up with. Let's have some fun!

3. NAC Member Erin Hatfield Helps Neighbors Connect

Edgewood Park resident Erin Hatfield serves on Knoxville's Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC), in an at large position, though she hails from District Four. She joined the council to give fellow residents a voice and help them reach the right City contacts when they need assistance. "I want people to know they can come to me, and I'll help them get in touch with who they need to from the city to get things done," Hatfield said.

Hatfield is especially focused on connecting neighbors and improving transportation options. She would like to see safer ways for people walking and bicycling to travel around Knoxville.

For Hatfield, neighbor-to-neighbor relationships are part of a strong community. Erin notes that people can live next door to one another without ever speaking, and she values the

opportunities Edgewood Park creates for residents to gather and get acquainted. She believes greater connectedness can help bridge divides.

Hatfield has lived in Knoxville since 2005, longer than anywhere else in her life, and considers the city home. Born in Augusta, Georgia, she moved to Tennessee in 2000. She now works as a communications specialist at the University of Tennessee's Boyd Center for Business and Economic Research.

Outside of work and neighborhood service, Hatfield enjoys hiking, backpacking, camping, bicycling and paddleboarding. She has also recently taken up pottery. She and her partner, Cameron, have been together for five years and share their home with an 8-year-old pit bull, Miss Xena Beyoncé, and two cats—Maxwell Edison, a tuxedo cat, and Sheba, a small gray cat.

Her travels have included a monthlong backpacking trip through Europe in 2007, with visits to England, Amsterdam, France, Germany and Italy. The journey brought adventures—and misadventures—that she still remembers. The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment is proud to have Erin Hatfield as a member of NAC and is thankful for her commitment!

4. City Hosts Second Hill Ave Meeting

The City of Knoxville will host the second feedback session on Monday, Oct. 12, from 5-7 p.m. at the Cal Johnson Recreation Center, 507 Hall of Fame Dr.

Following the Sept. 12 block party and the online survey, the City will share feedback collected and continue inviting additional input.

Join us indoors for activities, conversation, and an opportunity to shape what comes next for Hill Avenue.

5. Residents Invited to Oct. 15, Downtown / South Knoxville Connectivity Meeting

Residents are invited to share their priorities for travel across the Tennessee River at a public meeting Thursday, Oct. 15, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay St.

Attendees can provide feedback on connections between Downtown and South Knoxville and learn what other residents have shared with planners so far.

City of Knoxville and CDM Smith planners are seeking input on the factors residents consider most important when traveling between the two areas, including travel time, safety, community character, and walking and biking connections. Planners also want feedback on which bridges have the capacity to move more commuters efficiently and which future planning efforts could have the greatest impact on cross-river travel.

About 500 people provided input through the online survey and May 5 public meeting that launched the study. The Downtown / South Knoxville Connectivity Study is examining lower-cost, high-impact opportunities to improve access and mobility across the Tennessee River. Its findings will guide future City planning.

More information is available on the [City's Downtown / South Knoxville Connectivity Study webpage](#).

To request language translation services, contact the City's Human Resources Department at TitleVI@KnoxvilleTN.gov or 865-215-3100. For disability accommodations, contact the department at ADA@KnoxvilleTN.gov or 865-215-3100. The City provides reasonable access to its programs, services, and activities in accordance with Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II.

6. PARC to Hold Quarterly Meeting

The [Police Advisory Review Committee](#) (PARC) will hold its quarterly meeting on Thursday, Oct. 22, at 6 p.m. at the Bearden Public Library, 100 Golf Club Road.

If you would like to sign up to speak at Public Forum, you may do so by signing up on this [form](#). Confirmed speakers will receive a confirmation email from PARC. Community members may also sign up in person on the day of the meeting between 5:30-6 p.m. For any issues or questions regarding Public Forum, please contact Josie Russell at 865-215-3966 or jrussell@knoxvilletn.gov.

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.

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7. KPD Commander Forum Set for Nov. 3, at Bearden Branch Library

Knoxville residents in the East and West police districts can attend the Knoxville Police Department Commander Forum on Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 5:30 - 7 p.m. at the Bearden Branch Library, 100 Golf Club Road, Knoxville.

The forum gives residents an opportunity to learn about crime trends in their area, ask questions of KPD officers and meet officers who patrol Knoxville neighborhoods.

For more information, contact Anita Watson at awatson@knoxvilletn.gov or call 865-215-7042.

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8. Waste Connection to Update Residential Routes and Schedules

Waste Connections will be implementing residential routes and schedule updates beginning Monday, Oct. 5, to better align trash and recycling collection days and improve service efficiency. Customers affected by the changes will receive advance notifications by mail and through the Waste Connections mobile app.

Waste Connections encourages customers to download the Waste Connections app and sign up for notifications to receive important service updates and reminders. Additionally, after Monday, Oct. 5, customers may use the Service Day Lookup Tool at www.KnoxvilleTN.gov/ServiceAndSort to view their new service day.

During the transition period, Waste Connections will provide additional support for customers adjusting to their new collection schedules and will respond to reported missed collections related to the route changes.

Backdoor customers will not be affected by this reroute.

9. Senior Employment Service Hosts Annual Senior Job Fair

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) is hosting its annual October job fair on Thursday, Oct. 8, from 9 a.m.-12 noon, at the O'Connor Senior Center, located at 611 Winona St.

This event features community partners and employers who know the value of hiring an older worker. This gives seniors a chance to meet potential employers, network, get feedback on their resume, connect with other job seekers, and see what type of employment opportunities are available.

To learn more, visit the CAC Office on Aging website, call (865) 523-1135, or email knox00a@knoxseniors.org.

10. Win a Gift Card from What's Next Knoxville

Using the community's feedback from the spring, the What's Next Knoxville project team crafted a draft vision statement including goals and options for how different priorities could shape the future of Knoxville.

Now it's your turn to weigh in and say what matters most to you!

[Take the survey](#) and you'll be entered to win a \$50 Visa gift card! There will be a drawing winner each week through November 23rd. You can also [request project staff to attend](#) your organization or neighborhood group meeting to learn more about the process.

11. Keep Knoxville Beautiful Hosts Orchid Awards

Keep Knoxville Beautiful is hosting their annual Orchid Beautification Awards on Wednesday, Nov. 4, at the Knoxville Museum of Art. The award ceremony recognizes Knoxville and Knox County projects, spaces, and people that beautify and elevate local landscapes.

Nominee categories include new architecture, redesign/reuse, outdoor space, community project, public art, regreening, green at work, and other honorary orchid awards.

To purchase tickets, get more information, or look at the past winners, visit the [Keep Knoxville Beautiful](#) website. Let's celebrate the people who keep Knoxville beautiful!

12. Walk & Roll to School Day Set for Wednesday, Oct. 14

With Knox County Schools out for Fall Break this week, Walk & Roll to School Day will take place Wednesday, Oct. 14, encouraging students, families, schools and communities to walk or ride their bikes to school as part of an annual nationwide event. Communities planning a local Walk & Roll to School Day activity can [register](#) their event through the [Safe Routes Partnership website](#).

Walk & Roll to School Day brings communities together to encourage walking, biking, or skating to school and draws attention to the importance of safe, accessible routes for children. Thousands of schools across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico participate in the event each October.

The event began in 1997 as a one-day celebration and has since become part of a broader effort to support safe and accessible routes to school throughout the year.

Residents, neighborhood organizations and schools interested in participating can find event resources through the [Walk & Roll to School Day webpage](#), including social media materials, posters and a Neighborhood Walk Audit Checklist.

13. Leave The Leaves This Fall

This is a movement to leave the leaves where they fall, or at least rake the leaves into your flower beds, to create safe habitats for some important critters.

While we commonly call fallen leaves yard waste, it is actually an incredible and valuable habitat for wildlife and can break down into nutrients for plants. Keeping your leaves around can bring many benefits!

Did you know that the fallen layer isn't dead? It is full of life! Wildlife such as butterflies, bumble bees, fireflies, and salamanders depend on the leaf layer for their homes. When you throw out the leaves in your yard, you could potentially be throwing away up to half of your springtime butterflies!

Here are some tips for Leaving the Leaves:

- Avoid smothering your lawn or covering pathways
- Add to garden beds for extra benefits to the soil
- Place leaves under native trees to provide prime habitat for wildlife
- Pile up extra leaves and turn them into leaf mulch
- Go beyond leaves by leaving the sticks, logs, and stems too
- Use a rake, not a leaf blower
- Make your leave layer 3-5 inches thick
- Keep leaves from blowing away by watering them

In the springtime, you might get to see butterflies, fireflies, and more just by passively allowing your yard to exist.

14. [Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar](#) (click link for online calendar)

To add a neighborhood event or meeting to the [Google calendar](#), call 865-215-3232.

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.*