



KNOX COUNTY A Great American Community



We were so pleased this week to announce the Career Transition Assistance Fair. My thanks to the Chamber and the City of Knoxville for partnering with us to put this together. I really believe this is something that will be a great resource for our friends and neighbors who are in that very difficult situation of being without a job right now.

I also wanted to let you know that all of the leaders of Knox County government met this week to talk about our local economy and share what we are doing in our various departments to address the issues. I want to assure you that we are all keeping a very close eye on the various budgets across the county. We all understand the importance of working together as we navigate through this critical time.

Mike Ragsdale

Career Transition Assistance Fair announced

Free March 10th event offers seminars, resumes reviews, information resources

Knox County, the Knoxville Chamber and the City of Knoxville today announced an event to provide support and information to East



Tennesseans who are unemployed or underemployed. Knox County Mayor Mike Ragsdale announced the March 10th event, called the Career Transition Assistance Fair, which will be a free event held at the Jacobs Building at Chilhowee Park. At the press conference, the Chamber launched a [website](#) that provides details about the Fair.

In making the announcement, Ragsdale noted the significant number of layoffs that have occurred locally in recent weeks, saying, "Those folks who have already lost their jobs can't afford for us to wait to see what happens with the federal stimulus package. They need us to act now."

Chamber President and CEO Mike Edwards said that Chamber was working to ensure that the Fair would be "a tremendous resource to



In This Issue

[Career Transition Assistance Fair announced](#)

[Neighborhood Night](#)

[Local jazz greets to honor Jerry Coker](#)

[Teens needed for County's Youth Health Board](#)

[Fairview Technology Center launches Startup Business Competition](#)

[Local dentists give kids a reason to smile](#)

[County-wide creek clean up coming Feb. 28](#)

[Black History Month at the public library](#)

[Knox Parks and Recreation Assumes Management of Three Ridges Golf Course](#)

Check out the Property

employees in the community and to businesses." He gave an overview of the event, which will include a resource showcase of information about finding a job, starting your own business and issues related to job loss. Transition seminars will cover topics for job seekers and the recently unemployed and the resume assistance center will provide an opportunity for a professional review of the fair-goers resume.

The Career Transition Assistance Fair will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2009 from noon until 7:00 p.m. at the Jacob Building at Chilhowee Park. More information is available from the [website](#).

Neighborhood Night

Thursday, February 19th, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.
Karns Library

An opportunity for residents of the 6th District to speak with Mayor Ragsdale or one of the County's department heads about issues of concern.

Local jazz greats to honor Jerry Coker

Concert pays tribute to founder of UT's jazz program

On February 22nd, the East Tennessee History Center will host a warm-up act for this year's Jazz Festival. The Knox County Public Library and Knoxville Jazz Festival Inc. have announced a pre-festival tribute concert for Jerry Coker, who founded UT's jazz program. The 7:00 p.m. concert will be in the History Center's auditorium. Admission is \$15 for the general public, \$10 with a student ID. Tickets are available at the door.

Coker will be playing with three former students, who are now UT Music Professors--Mark Boling on guitar, Keith Brown on drums, and Rusty Holloway on bass. Donald Brown will play piano, and Coker's longtime friend, the Grammy-winning trombonist Slide Hampton, will be a special guest.



This concert marks the beginning of the Knoxville Jazz Festival on March 4-7, 2009. This year's festival includes performances by Freddy Cole, Don Byron, the Knoxville Jazz Youth Orchestra, Emily Mathis, and Knoxville's own Donald Brown. For the complete schedule and ticket information, go to www.knoxjazzfest.org.

Teens needed for County's Youth Health Board

High schoolers interested in health issues encouraged to apply

High school students from across Knox County are encouraged to sign up for the Youth Health Board. The YHB is a forum for young people to affect the health and well-being of our community. This youth-driven effort provides opportunities for students to partner with health professionals from the Health Department and other community groups to explore and take action on a variety of health issues.

**Assessor's
new website.**

Knox County Calendar

February 16
County holiday
*

Convenience centers
closed

February 17
Finance Committee
Meeting
*

Intergovernmental
Committee Meeting

February 19
NEIGHBORHOOD
NIGHT
in the 6th District
*

Part 3 of diabetes
management series at
Health Department
*

Close Read
discussion group in
West Knoxville

February 21
Close Read
discussion group in
Halls

February 23
County Commission
Meeting

February 21
Close Read
discussion group
downtown

February 22

We are looking for two representatives from each high school who demonstrate strong leadership skills, a commitment to the community, and an interest in health-related issues. To apply, complete and submit the Youth Health Board application no later than March 20, 2009. For more information, contact Carrie Thomas at 865.215.5174 or carrie.thomas@knoxcounty.org.

Fairview Technology Center launches *Startup Business Competition*

Grand prize includes cash, rent and business consulting services

Two startup businesses will get a huge leg up on success if they are the winners of the Fairview Technology Center's 2009 Startup Business Competition. Fairview Technology Center is a small business incubator owned by Knox County and managed by the Development Corporation of Knox County and Technology 2020. FTC is launching the competition to encourage new businesses development in Knox County.

The contest is limited to new, independent enterprises that are in the seed capital, startup or early growth stages. The competition specifically encourages entries that would license previously un-commercialized technology from universities or recognized research and development labs.

The grand prize winner will receive a cash grant up to \$7,500 for startup costs, a year's free rent at FTC, business consulting services from Technology 2020 and other free benefits like legal services, business card creation and membership at the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce. The second place winner receives a cash grant up to \$2,500, six months free rent at FTC, consulting services provided by Technology 2020 and accounting assistance.

Entries must be submitted by March 12, with judging held on May 12. For more information and entry forms visit <http://www.knoxdevelopment.org/>

Local dentists give kids a reason to smile

The word toothache is a misnomer. The intense pain caused by tooth decay or infection prompts most of us to seek immediate relief from a professional. But what if you're only three years old? Unfortunately, thousands of children suffer from poor dental health and the consequences include poor eating habits, speech problems, low self-esteem and inability to concentrate on learning or playing activities. Unchecked Infection in tooth abscesses has even caused death in children. Low-income

families are most affected, with 80 percent of tooth decay found in just 25 percent of children.

On Friday, Feb. 6, for the fourth year, local dentists from the Second

Jazz tribute to Jerry Coker

February 25
Board of Zoning Appeals
*

Beck Center public meeting

February 26
Part 4 of diabetes management series at Health Department

February 28
Close Read discussion group in Powell
*

Countywide Creek Cleanup

Suggestions or comments?

We'd love to get your input. Send your comments or questions to our [newsletter editor](#).

Quick Links

[Knox County Office of Neighborhoods](#)
[Public Library](#)
[Public Schools](#)
[Parks & Recreation](#)
[Health Department](#)

District Dental Society used the County Health Department's Dental Clinic for Give Kids a Smile (GKAS) Day, which provides free preventive and restorative dental services to children from low-income families. GKAS Day is always on the first Friday in February. Each child receives necessary x-rays and dental home care instructions, has a dental cleaning and fluoride treatment, and is seen by a dentist who volunteers his or her services. Children take home a goody bag containing a new toothbrush, toothpaste, floss and a prize. Children who need additional services are referred to private dentists who volunteer their services.

In 2008, 32 children were treated at KCHD's dental facility, with donated dental supplies and doctor's hours valued at \$6,000 for the day. Donated services in private offices totaled \$2,500.

County-wide creek clean up coming Feb. 28

Event kicks off Great American Clean-up™

Knox County, Keep Knoxville Beautiful, the Water Quality Forum and CAC AmeriCorps will join forces on February 28th between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. for Clean, Protect and Restore (CPR)- a county-wide clean-up event designed to mobilize volunteers to help resuscitate community streams. This year's event will also help kick-off Keep Knoxville Beautiful's Great American Clean-up™.

Clean-up sites are currently being identified throughout Knox County. Sites will be located along streams, roadways, in parks and throughout neighborhoods. Sites not visited on February 28th, will be cleaned up with the help of volunteers throughout the Great American Clean-up, which officially runs from March 1st through May 31st.

For more information about how you can become involved in the February 28th clean up, call CAC AmeriCorps Water Quality Team office at (865) 523-2358 or e-mail Sejal at sashah60@gmail.com. For more information about the Great American Clean-up™, call the Keep Knoxville Beautiful office at (865) 521-6957 or e-mail Allison at allison@keepknoxvillebeautiful.org.

Black History Month at the public library

Local resources, history, biography, art, folktales, memoirs, and teen selections

The Knox County Public Library has created an exceptional Black History Month resource page that you can access on their [website](#). Following is a list of five resources specific to black history in Knox County:

1. The History of Blacks in Knoxville, Tennessee, 1791-1891
2. Two hundred years of Black culture in Knoxville, Tennessee: 1791 to 1991
3. Diary of a sit-in
4. Trial and triumph: essays in Tennessee's African American history
5. Anatomy of four race riots: racial conflict in Knoxville, Elaine (Arkansas), Tulsa, and Chicago, 1919-1921

Knox Parks and Recreation assumes management of Three Ridges Golf Course

Championship course located in north east part of County

Knox County Parks and Recreation has assumed the management of Three Ridges Golf Course from an out of state contractor. Doug Bataille, Senior Director of Parks and Recreation, said the course, which is owned by the county, has been profitable since it opened. It makes sense to keep the money spent on management here in the community. The current staff will be kept in place.



Three Ridges, an 18-hole championship course located on Wise Springs Road in north east Knox County, offers PGA instruction, a fully equipped pro shop, clubhouse with food and beverage services and an outdoor pavilion. Three Ridges is home to the Knox County Amateur Championships and several other corporate and fundraising events.

Join us in our efforts to make Knox County *A Great American Community*. **Become a part of the conversation.** Tell us about our programs and services that are working for you, and the ones that aren't. **Support our teachers** and the great work they are doing to educate our children. **Get involved** with the workforce development effort. **Participate** in the great events our libraries and parks offer. County government starts with you, the citizen, so **join in!**

Sincerely,

Mike Ragsdale, County Mayor
Knox County, A Great American Community