



## Knox County News

It hardly seems possible that we are already thinking about children heading back to school. But in just 10 days, our teachers go back to work. In less than a month, our children will be back in the classroom. However, we do still have a little bit of summer time left. We have another Second Saturday concert coming up at the Cove at Concord Park on the 8th. We've arranged for some special rates if you want to go out and experience our beautiful Three Ridges Golf Course.

I encourage you to take advantage of all that Knox County has to offer you and your family this summer.

Mike Ragsdale

## Health Department extends clinic hours for school immunizations

*Main and West Clinic open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on select days*

School starts Monday, August 17th. So the Knox County Health Department (KCHD) is working to ensure our children can get their school vaccinations. There will be special, extended clinic hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the next two weeks at two facilities to accommodate the school immunization rush.

The Main Clinic (140 Dameron Avenue) and the West Clinic (1028 Old Cedar Bluff) will be open for school immunizations from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on the following dates:

- Tuesday, Aug. 4
- Thursday, Aug. 6
- Tuesday, Aug. 11
- Thursday, Aug. 13

From 4:30 to 8:00 p.m. on these days, clinic staff will be dedicated **exclusively** to providing school vaccinations. All other KCHD services will be provided during regular business hours. No appointment is necessary.

There is no charge for any child less than 19 years of age who is a Knox County resident. Out-of-county residents pay a \$10 fee, cash or check. Parents should bring their child's shot record, if possible. To expedite visits, parent can download forms from the KCHD Web site at



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The [Knox County Fire Prevention Bureau](#) reminds you to practice

### E.D.I.T.H

E.D.I.T.H. = Exit Drills in the Home. Keep your family safe!!

[www.knoxcounty.org/health](http://www.knoxcounty.org/health) and fill them out before coming to the clinic. Children enrolling into a Knox County school for the first time must present proof of immunization and proof of a physical examination within the last year.

**Keep immunizations up to date.** "Immunizations don't end at kindergarten," reminds Mary Ann Harrison, RN and manager of KCHD's Patient Health Services and International Travel Clinic.

- Eleven-year-olds need a tetanus booster and meningitis vaccine.
- Seventh-grade students are required to have the Hepatitis B series.
  
- Hepatitis A is now available for everyone over one year of age.
- A second varicella (chickenpox) vaccine is now suggested for all who have only received one dose.
- The new Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine is recommended for female children.

Twelve Knox County parks are still waiting to be adopted.

[Here is the list of parks that need your love and care.](#)

Do you have some time to keep our parks beautiful? If you do, Adopt-a-Park today!

**Follow us on Twitter!**

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[@KnoxReads](#)

**Knox County on Facebook**

[-Knox County Happenings](#)

[-Adopt-A-Road](#)

[-Air Quality](#)

[-Emergency Management Agency](#)

[-Health Department](#)

[-Knox Recycles](#)

[-Parks and Recreation](#)

[-Public Library](#)

[-Stormwater Management](#)

[-Young Williams Animal Center](#)

[-East Tennessee Veterans](#)

**Become a fan of them all!**

## Time to stock the Teacher Supply Depot

*Surplus office supplies can meet teacher/classroom needs*

The Teacher Supply Depot is a way that our community and local businesses can actively support our classroom teachers. It is a clearinghouse for donated surplus materials that can be used in classrooms. Located at 232 Churchwell Avenue, the Depot is open for donations Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Then, four times a year, teachers have the opportunity to come in and stock up on supplies they need for their classrooms.



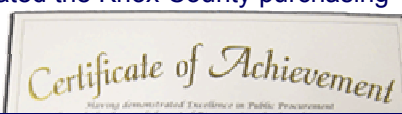
Teachers traditionally invest as much as \$700 of their personal funds each year for supplies in their classrooms. Often basic tools for learning are lacking -- pens, pencils, paper, as well as art and other supplies. You can visit the [Knox County Schools website](#) to see a list of suggested items you can donate. If it's not listed here, but you think it might be usable, call the Teacher Supply Depot (594-1221) before discarding it. Donations are tax deductible.

## County Purchasing team recognized for exceptional performance

*Ranked among top 5% of professional counterparts*

The National Institute of Governmental Purchasing has formally recognized Knox County's Purchasing Department for its excellence in public procurement by awarding it the Outstanding Agency Accreditation Achievement Award. In so doing, it has again recertified the Department as one of "an elite group of purchasing organizations that represent the highest sustained standards of quality and efficiency in government." This is an award the Department has received annually since 2003.

Rick Grimm, CEO of NIGP, congratulated the Knox County purchasing team, noting that the certification and achievement it represents "bring credibility and recognition to your



**Knox County Calendar**

**August 4**

KCHD-Special immunization clinic

**August 6**

KCHD-Special immunization clinic

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New Harvest Park Farmers Market

**August 8**

Second Saturday

entity - an accomplishment that should be highly regarded by your elected officials and the citizenry that you serve."

NIGP works to develop, support and promote public procurement practitioners through educational and research programs, technical services and advocacy initiatives. To be eligible for the award, Knox County had to respond to the rigorous challenge of a detailed application process that required substantial documentation and a demonstration of best practices. The institution represents over 2,600 governmental agencies throughout the United States and Canada. Less than 5% of those agencies attain this prestigious award.

## knoxAchieves seeks 2009-2010 mentors

*Help first generation college students eliminate commons barriers*

[knoxAchieves](#) provides an opportunity for 500 Knox County public high school graduates to receive up to \$2000 for community college tuition. A unique component of knoxAchieves is its mentoring program.

Right now, knoxAchieves is recruiting volunteers to serve as mentors in all Knox County public high schools. Mentors act as encouragers to first-generation and lower-to-middle-income college attendees. Essentially, mentors help eliminate barriers student might face as they transition from high school to college.

Mentors are responsible for

attending one mandatory training session in September and all follow-up training. During the training, knoxAchieves mentors learn to guide students through the application process and how to ensure they meet financial aid and college registration deadlines. To accomplish these goals, mentors are asked to meet with students at least once a month beginning in December.

If you are interested in making a difference in the lives of some very deserving, but under served students, please complete the [knoxAchieves mentor application form](#). [Note: all mentors are subject to a background check.]

# knoxAchieves

TRANSFORMING LIVES, CHANGING COMMUNITIES

## Protect your health

*Health Department offers health eating and cooking demos*



Protect  
your health

schedules here.

[Healthy Eating Schedule](#)... Change your diet, change your life.

Did you know that the Knox County Health Department offers free demonstrations on healthy eating and cooking? The Health Department website has schedules for free classes on healthy eating and on managing diabetes. You can also access those

Concert at the Cove-  
the Retroholics

**August 10**

Teachers back to school

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Tennessee Yards &  
Neighborhoods  
Workshop

**August 11**

KCHD-Special  
immunization clinic

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Tennessee Yards &  
Neighborhoods  
Workshop

**August 13**

KCHD-Special  
immunization clinic  
New Harvest Park  
Farmers Market

**August 17**

School back in  
session-students  
return



**Suggestions or  
comments?**

Story ideas?

You can email our  
[newsletter editor](#).

**Quick Links**

[Diabetes Schedule](#)... Free informative sessions on diabetes and health improvement.

[Knox County](#)  
[Office of Neighborhoods](#)  
[Public Library](#)  
[Public Schools](#)  
[Parks & Recreation](#)  
[Health Department](#)  
[Convenience Centers](#)  
[Smart Trips](#)  
[Office of Aging](#)  
[Senior Centers](#)  
[Veterans Services](#)

## Summer Reading Challenge comes to a close

*Claim prizes, but keep tuned in to library programs*

If you or your child completed the summer reading challenge, be sure to complete your paperwork and claim your reward. What do you get for meeting the challenge? [Note: All prizes are available while supplies last!]

**Children** who read for 12 hours or listened for 20 hours get a great rewards book containing admission to age appropriate local activities and adventure spots as well as coupons for tasty summer snacks. You can continue with their reading activities with library programs like Baby Bookworms, and Toddler and Pre-school storytimes at the many branch libraries throughout the County.

A graphic with the text "Summer Library Club" in a red, stylized font on a light blue and green background.

**Teens** who read five books get their own rewards book that includes passes to area attractions and restaurants. Every teen who completed their reading log is automatically entered into a drawing to win a Wii. Now that the reading challenge has ended, teens can continue their involvement with the library by participating in Teen Advisory Groups (TAGs), which meet once a month at different library locations all over Knox County. The groups are open to teens ages 12-17. There are also different teen activities, including Wii game night, Write Together, and a teen book club.

A graphic with the text "TEEN SUMMER READING" in a bold, orange and yellow font on a dark background.

**Adults** that read four books will receive a roomy canvas tote to hold all their books. Even though you may have finished the reading challenge, you'll find there is a lot more for you at the library. Knox County's public library offers online book clubs (fiction & non-fiction, mystery, thriller, romance, sci-fi, business, classics & teen), downloadable audiobooks, free computer workshops, family game nights and much more.

A graphic with the text "adult READING CHALLENGE" in a green and yellow font on a dark background.

## Parks and Rec offers "Staycation" opportunity

*Take time to check out Three Ridges Golf Course*

If you are one of many taking a "Staycation" this year, Three Ridges Golf Course can help you enjoy that time with summertime stimulus deals for the entire month of August.

The County's championship, par 72 course is located at 6101 Wise Springs Road. It offers 18 holes for just \$28 anytime Monday through Thursday, beginning August 3. The offer includes green fees, a cart, and even a hot dog! On Sundays, children can play free if they are playing with a parent who is paying the advertised rate.

(One child free with each adult round.)

"We have a beautiful, nationally ranked course here in Knoxville, and this is a way to let people who may not have played it before, or who are just getting started, have a chance to play at a reduced rate," said Mark Brown, General Manager of Three Ridges.

Three Ridges features a driving range, putting green, and chipping area for practice, a fully equipped pro shop, food and beverage service, and club rentals. PGA golf instruction is also offered by appointment.

Tee times are available by calling 687-4797. Or, check out the website at [www.knoxcounty.org/golf](http://www.knoxcounty.org/golf).

## Thirty-seven trained to create Tennessee friendly yards

**Class #3 slated for August 10 & 11**

Those who have attended the first two Tennessee Yards and Neighborhoods (TYN) classes have found them to be productive and useful, and are asking for additional training. Many class participants are asking for follow up classes on using rain barrels and integrated pest and weed management and other topics related to having an environmentally friendly yard.

TYN will be hosting another of these Home Landscape Workshops in August. This one will be held August 10th & 11th, and will be broken up into two, three-hour classes rather than held as a six-hour workshop as the previous two have been. The workshop will be held at the Bearden/West Knoxville Public Library, located at 100 Golf Club Road.

The workshop provides guidebooks and diagnostic tools like soil tests and rain gauges plus a "yard" stick (pictured) to help you measure your progress toward a "Tennessee Yard Done Right." The program is based on principles that consider yard care needs of homeowners and their families while also helping to protect the community's natural surroundings. It will offer tips and advice on the following topics:

- The Land-Water Connection: The importance of water in our community landscape.
- Nine Steps to a Tennessee Yard Done Right: Principles for an earth-friendly landscape.
- Turfgrass Management: Proper care and feeding of Tennessee grass varieties.
- Soils and Mulch: How to give your plants the best chance of survival.
- Home Stormwater Strategies: Managing the quantity and quality of storm water flowing into and from your yard.
- Landscape Design Considerations: Plan before you plant; analyzing your site for sun and water.



The workshop is limited to 25 participants and costs \$35 per person or \$50 per couple. For more information, contact David Vandergriff at 865-215-2341 or [dgriff@tennessee.edu](mailto:dgriff@tennessee.edu). To register, call 865-215-2340.

## Powell Scouts adopt Powell Station Park

**Troop 154 from Powell newest members of Parks and Rec Adopt-a-Park program**

Cub Scout Pack and Boy Scout Troop 154 from Powell are participating in the Knox County Parks and Recreation's Adopt-a-Park program. Ages seven to 18, these scouts have adopted Powell Station Park, 2318 Emory Road. The boys do their clean up activities as part of their weekly meeting.

Knox County is erecting signs at the parks that have been "Adopted" by local organizations, families and individuals. The volunteers help keep an eye on the parks, do light maintenance and litter pick-up, and occasionally assist with special projects in their parks. Adopters are asked to visit the park and report any unusual activities or maintenance issues they see.



Nine County parks and greenways have been adopted since the program began in March. Visit the [Parks and Recreation website](#) to see locations that are still available for adoption.

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!**

**Best regards,**

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