

News

HISTORIC FOURTH & GILL NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

3RD QUARTER 2005

Inside:

**Halloween Party
Set for Mon., Oct. 31st**

**Early Voting Begins
in City Council Races**

**Ideas Needed for
Neighborhood Center**

**New Homes Taking
Shape on Former
McCallie School Land**

. . . and more

*News is published four times
a year by the Fourth & Gill
Neighborhood Organization.*

*Send submissions (articles, news
items, photos, etc.) to Joey Cody,
editor, 673-9001 or
octobercomm@comcast.net.*

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**The Historic 4th & Gill
Neighborhood is located
just north of downtown.**

**Visit our website at
www.fourthandgill.org.**

**Our address is P.O. Box 3845,
Knoxville, TN 37927-3845.**

Fall Neighborhood Potluck



**Monday, September 19th
6–8:30 p.m.**

Fourth & Gill Park, Eleanor St.

*Rain location: Central United
Methodist Church, 3rd & Morgan*

Come down for food, fellowship, to turn in your ballot for neighborhood watch signs, and to make food donations to Children's Hospital. (Our Eleanor St. neighbor, Diane McCarn, who is a nurse at the hospital, will be collecting items such as canned ravioli, spaghetti, soups, or anything microwavable that doesn't need to be refrigerated. Families who can't afford the cafeteria greatly need such care packages.)

Remember to bring a dish to share (the social committee will again be providing a savory meat dish, soft drinks, utensils, etc.), and get an earful of the latest news and gossip. Hope to see you there!

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Your Sign Ballot Is Enclosed – Please Vote!

We need to know if you think that the Fourth & Gill Neighborhood Watch should have signs posted in our neighborhood. This plan also includes removing our three current signs (like the one on Glenwood), which are dilapidated. Some of the pros and cons to signage are on the backside of the ballot, along with a picture of the proposed sign. Every residence (apartments are considered separate residences), business, and landlord gets one vote—no more than one vote per person, and no more than one vote per residence.

Each ballot must include a name, address (including apartment number if applicable), type of voter (tenant, landlord, etc.), and a vote. Incomplete ballots will be disregarded. In addition, you may suggest where you would like signs to be located, should they be approved by this vote. Be specific!

Voting ends at 8:30 p.m. on September 19th. The ballot gives details of four options for turning in your vote.

Help us determine what YOU want — vote!



In full effect: Your neighborhood network!



Coordinators,
police officers,
and block cap-
tains have all
been working

hard this year to
revitalize Fourth & Gill's neigh-
borhood watch. But we still
need cooperation and participa-
tion from more neighbors!

If you are interested in mat-
ters of community safety (as
well as community spirit and
cohesion), come to the next
neighborhood network meeting
— it's open to all members of
the neighborhood, not just block
captains. We meet every fourth
Monday of the month (unless
there's a conflict with the board
meeting), at 7 p.m., upstairs in the
neighborhood center. Each month
we discuss security and crime
issues, review an area crime report,
and KPD officers are often in atten-
dance to address concerns directly.

Come voice your concerns and
be heard! E-mail coordinators
Virginia Douglas (vlpdsings@aol.com)
or Jody DeRidder (jderidder@earthlink.net)
with questions.

The next NN meeting will be
Monday, Sept. 26th, at 7 p.m., at
Virginia Douglas' house at 918 Gratz
St. (Due to a scheduling conflict
with the board, this will be a more
informal meeting—BYOB!)



Desperately seeking media delivery volunteers!

Thanks to Gordon Coker & Gabrielle
Boudreau, who have volunteered to
take on Erin & Rob Frost's newsletter
route. And big thanks to the Frosts,
who have delivered newsletters, fly-
ers and other assorted notices for
years, in addition to coordinating all
the other distributors.

If you would like to volunteer
to be a media distributor (usually
just four to six deliveries per year,
a few blocks per person) or backup,
or the distributor coordinator,
please e-mail Joey Cody at octobercomm@comcast.net. And a BIG
thanks to all of those who deliver
regularly—we couldn't have a well-
informed neighborhood without you!

Annual Halloween Festivities, Monday, Oct. 31st 5p.m., Kay Newton's yard, northeast corner Caswell & Luttrell



It's time once again to check out the neighborhood's dis-
guises . . . and cooking! Bring your super-secret-recipe home-
made chili to share and enter the chili cook-off. (Hot dogs,
drinks and chips will be provided.) And remember to wear a
costume and enter the contest. There will be a kids' costume
parade, with prizes awarded to the scariest, funniest, and most
original costumes.

The Social Committee needs help with set-up, clean-up, and
costume and chili judging. Our neighborhood has a great Hal-
loween tradition, but it does not happen by magic, so please vol-
unteer. It's fun and your help will be greatly appreciated. If you
can help out, please call Kaye Osborne at 329-3406 or 604-7289.

How can the Neighborhood Center benefit you?

We're looking for your suggestions and
ideas on what to do with the Fourth & Gill
Neighborhood Center. The building used to be
a humming center of activity, but currently
needs quick and serious attention—we must
decide something soon.

How can we best use this building to help us
create a thriving community? What activities
would you would want to be part of? The Neigh-
borhood Center Task force is seeking suggestions
that are reasonable, manageable, and have a posi-
tive impact on this neighborhood. Your comments
are important to us. We'll have a brainstorming

meeting (with ice cream!) on Tuesday Oct. 11th, at
7:30 p.m. at Central United Methodist Church. If
you aren't able to attend, send your ideas to one of
the task force members:

- Barbara Simpson, 523-7446, bsimpsoncpa@aol.com
- Bill Murrah, 523-7446, bmurrah@laet.org
- Bill Pittman, 523-7004, bpittman@deroyal.com
- Jody DeRidder, 546-2973, jderidder@earthlink.net
- Jonathan Wimmer, 546-0996, jonathan@alamo-steakhouse.com
- Virginia Douglas, 524-1462, vlpdsings@aol.com

New 'historic' homes taking shape on McCallie lot

If you haven't recently walked by the McCallie lot
(800 block of Gratz St.), you're in for a surprise. The
formerly vacant lot now has three new homes being
developed on it, thanks in part to the hard work of
neighbors who served on the McCallie lot task force.
In-fill historic housing will grace half the lot, and a
neighborhood park will occupy the other half.

One new home already has its walls in
place. John and Judith Neff have been res-
idents of downtown Knoxville for 12-1/2
years. Judith said that they "have loved the
energy of the downtown area. From early
on we have taken long urban hikes and
watched the city revitalize around us."
John is a pathologist on staff at UT. Judith
has a PhD in education, serves as an adjunct at UT
and as a Literacy Coach in Anderson County.

The Neffs began to look at Old North Knoxville
and the Fourth & Gill neighborhoods with renewed
interest last year. "We are at a time in our lives when
we have more time at home and would appreciate
many of the possibilities in a home," said Judith.
When they read of the city's RFP, they knew they
wanted to make a proposal. In July they began con-
struction of their new home.

The Neff Residence will be a two-story resi-
dence designed by local architect Elizabeth Eason

of EE Architecture. In keeping with the character of
Fourth & Gill and to meet the H-1 guidelines, the
exterior of the home is designed as a contemporary
version of a Victorian house.

The design maintains the historic façade lines of
Fourth & Gill streets by having the front plane of
the home at the same distance from the sidewalk
as the neighboring homes. The size and pro-
portions of the new house are designed to
match the forms of historic homes in the neigh-
borhood and across the street. In addition to
being compatible with the historic neighbor-
hood, the home also incorporates both sustain-
able and small house design features.

A detached two-car garage with workshop and
gardening storage is also planned for the site.

Juan Mino, a local architect, will live in a home of
his own design on the corner lot. His home will feature
wood weatherboard siding, metal gabled roof with
gabled dormers, and a garage at the rear of the lot.

The middle lot has not closed yet, but apparently
will be designed by architect Charlie Richmond
(whose offices are in Old North) and built by John
Wampler of Luttrell St. for a buyer to be determined.

Kudos to all those who helped usher this vacant
lot into vital new housing and green space, and wel-
come to our new neighbors.



Neighbor News



Happy birthday to **Jacob Ottinger** (Fourth Ave.!) Jacob had his 2nd birthday on August 24th.

Congratulations to Luttrell St. neighbors **Grace & Jeff Novinger** (and big brother, **Max**), who welcomed **Jackson Jeffrey Novinger** into their family on August 15th, at 9:50 a.m. Baby Jackson was 20.5 inches long and 8.6 pounds at birth. I know it's been a long summer, Grace—nice work!



Max Novinger & Baby Jackson

Shane & Sarah McLaughlin, of Luttrell St., are the proud parents of a new baby boy, **Micah Shane McLaughlin**. He was born May 24th, weighing 8 lbs. 3 oz.

Shane and Sarah are apparently excellent parents as they claim to be getting more sleep now than during the pregnancy! They report that Micah likes to eat, sleep, play and listen to his daddy play the French horn. Congratulations to the new parents!

Dorothy W. Norton, 92, a recent resident of Charlotte, North Carolina (formerly of Maryville and a longtime resident of 1221 Luttrell), died on Aug. 2nd 2005. Dot was predeceased by her husband of 70 years, William L. Norton, and their daughter Linda Knies. She is survived by son-in-law Robin Knies, son Dale Norton and wife Nancy, and daughter Carol Luttrell and husband Rick; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and sister-in-law Hilda Bethea. She was a graduate of Maryville Polytechnic Institute, an executive secretary at Alcoa Aluminum Co. before raising her family, and an active volunteer in the PTA and the altar guild at St. James Episcopal Church. The funeral service was Aug. 9th at St. James, and interment followed at Grandview Cemetery in Maryville. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. James Episcopal Church, 1101 N. Broadway, Knoxville, TN 37917.

Sassy Ann's, at 820 N. Fourth Ave., was awarded "Best Margarita in Town" in the *Metro Pulse* 2005 Best of Knoxville poll. The readers of *Metro Pulse* recommend the steak, and the joint was described as "a true neighborhood bar." Congratulations to Vicki and the rest of the Sassy Ann's staff!

Kay Newton and little **Popeye** have enjoyed quite a road-trippy summer. They recently returned from Folly Beach, South Carolina, and last month took a countrywide trip to Portland, Oregon (to visit Kay's daughter), stopping to visit folks in Memphis, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Wyoming, Utah, California, Arizona, and New Mexico—whew! Welcome home, you two!

Congratulations to **Sean Martin**, Eleanor St. neighbor, new board member, and also our new historic zoning representative. Sean was elected at the July 25th board meeting. Welcome aboard, Sean!

Robert Thomas & Jennifer Wolfe (and their menagerie) have finally moved into 933 Luttrell, which they're still renovating. Robert is already the Neighborhood Watch captain for the 900 and 1000 blocks of Luttrell. The place is looking great, Guys. And someday soon all those contractors will be done!

April Wadley, husband **John Bohnenstiel**, son **Arbor** (and **Russia** the dog and **Bart** the cat) will be moving from Gratz St. to their new home in Fountain City on Sept. 19th. John will continue to work as produce manager at Three Rivers Market, but April will be much closer to her teaching job at Garden Montessori. We hope you enjoy your new home, but we will miss you guys!

~ Send items to **Joey Cody** at 673-9001 or octobercomm@comcast.net

Ice cream social triumphs over monsoon challenge



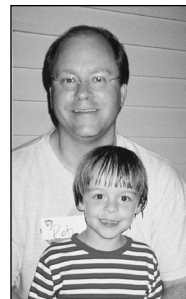
Virginia Douglas enjoys asking for her ice cold treat.

Our Aug. 13th neighborhood ice cream social was a success, despite the torrential downpour! The monsoon hit soon after the party began, and it dumped gallons for the remainder of the gathering. Still, many folks hurried under Kay Newton's spacious porch to celebrate our great neighborhood and partake of the new low-cal, low-fat Edy's ice cream (it was unanimous that the stuff really is delicious).

Thanks to Allen Osborne, Zak Weisfeld, and Patrick McInturff for heavy lifting, Jennifer Monroe and Gabrielle Boudreau for serving, Kay Newton for providing the venue, Joey Cody for organizing the party (and entering Fourth & Gill in the contest!), Edy's for the ice cream, and KUB for the bottles of H2O to Go.



Jennifer and Elliot Hendricks



Rob Frost and son Sonny

Website had mailing list glitch

Our webmaster has recently noticed a problem with people trying to sign up for the mailing list. The glitch has now been corrected, but it may have been an issue all summer. Are you receiving updates from e-mails addressed to neighbors@fourthandgill.com? If not, please visit www.fourthandgill.org and re-join the e-mail list. Sorry for any inconvenience.

2005 East Tenn. Old House Fair is November 5th

Building on the success of last year's event, this year's fair promises to be bigger and better, with more workshops, vendors, and corporate support. The show is a great way for those of you involved in restoration and preservation to meet with businesses that provide services and products for historic homes. The Fourth & Gill Neighborhood Organization plans to set up a booth at the fair, featuring a computer slideshow of neighbors and houses. Visit www.knoxheritage.org for details.

Yard waste pick-up reminders/policy

Please place piles (not rows) of leaves, tree trimmings and other organic yard waste on the curb for pick-up. To prevent traffic accidents, please do not place brush piles or other debris in the street. The city collects brush every two weeks from January 15th to October 15th, and leaves are picked up four times between October 15th and January 15th. Problems? Call Codes Enforcement at 215-2118.

Thanks to Expo 10k/5k volunteers!

Thanks to all the volunteers who got up early on May 28th to cheer on the 2005 EXPO 10K and 5K runners. We're much obliged to John Jacobs, Jonathan Wimmer, and Rob Frost, who helped organize supplies and volunteers. Thanks to our city spirit, our neighborhood is fast becoming a must-have route in the best Knoxville races!

You can vote now in City Council races



Early voting has already begun for the City Council primary races. You can vote from now through Sept.

22nd at any early voting location, including the clerk's office in Knoxville Center Mall (East Towne) and at the downtown courthouse. Hours are Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Early voting centers will be open until 8 p.m. on Sept. 20th, 21st, and 22nd.

If you miss early voting you can still vote on Primary Election Day, Tues., Sept. 27th, at your regular voting site (for most Fourth-& Gillers that's the Central United Methodist Church or The Green School). The more we vote, the more those elected officials are likely to address our neighborhood's concerns!

Visit knoxcounty.org/election/index.php for information on the 2005 candidates, voting locations, absentee ballots, and more.

Spotlight on a Local Enterprise

Taoist Tai Chi Center • 1205 N. Central Ave.

What were 200 people doing cavorting with a Chinese lion on Central Ave. recently? Celebrating the grand opening of the Taoist Tai Chi Society, of course! City Councilmen Chris Woodhull and Rob Frost, and Miriam Levering, chair of UT Asian Studies, spoke at the festivities.

The event introduced the neighboring communities to the benefits of tai chi, offered guests the opportunity to glaze and fire their own raku pottery teacup, provided sumptuous vegetarian treats, and featured tai chi demonstrations.

This style of tai chi was developed for health restoration and maintenance by Master Moy Lin-shin, who immigrated to North America in 1970. "This is a low-impact, noncompetitive exercise that emphasizes the benefit for the individual more than the perfection of a form. The movements may be



The crowd at the recent Tai Chi Center opening watches the Chinese lion ceremony.

adapted to benefit persons of all fitness levels and abilities," said Ken Stephenson, president of the Knoxville Branch council of the society and one of its instructors.

The all-volunteer, nonprofit international society has offered classes in Tennessee for 18 years and in Knoxville for seven years. Instructors are accredited through the society, but they are not paid to teach. The society does not charge for classes, but students are encouraged to join the society. (Dues are \$30 per month, with discounts extended to students and seniors.) Members may attend as many classes as they wish.

New classes for beginners will meet on Mon. and Wed. from 6-7:30 p.m., starting Sept. 12th; Tues. and Thurs. from 5:30-6:30 p.m., starting Sept. 13th; and Sat. from 10-11:30 a.m., starting Sept. 10th.

The Knoxville branch can be reached by phone at 546-9222 and at knoxville.tn@taoist.org.

Knoxville, TN 37927-3845

P.O. Box 3845

www.fourthandgill.org

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NEWS

