



The Bulletin



A spooky good time for all

Partner agencies recently joined forces to give families a fun Halloween experience, complete with candy for the kids and helpful resources for the adults during trunk-or-treats at Autumn Landing, Nature’s Cove and First Creek at Austin.

The trunk-or-treats were spearheaded by KCDC Activity Coordinator Stephanie Fisher, who specifically chose Nature’s Cove and Autumn Landing in hopes of allowing families to meet property manager Rachel Walker, and First Creek following a resident request during August’s bicycle giveaway. She hopes to alternate 3-4 communities each season.

“My goal with any event I do is to build relationships between the residents and the staff at the locations,” Stephanie said. “... If I can show the residents that we are there to help them and support them, and not everything is all business all the time, then I have achieved my goal. I hope that when these events are done residents feel supported and know they have a staff who is ready to invest in them.”

Of the three trunk-or-treats, Stephanie felt Autumn Landing was the most attended for youth and First Creek was the most attended for overall families, but even so, all were a success.



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“I felt the families were very receptive to the events,” Stephanie said. “At each event, we had several of the parents tell us they were so happy we did these events at their properties and told us, ‘Thank you,’ for doing so.”

Each event offered free pizza, a hot chocolate bar, little treats like pretzels and cheeseballs, face tattoos, and candy that the vendors handed out. Kids who dressed up automatically entered a costume contest. Depending where they placed, winners had their pick of Barbie pillows, basketballs, lunch boxes or candy.

“This was a team effort with AmeriCorps, for sure,” Stephanie said. “They were such an amazing help and never complained about any of it at all. They were there to help me get things set up and stayed until everything was back the way we found it. No matter what they were dealing with in other areas, they were there helping.”

A safe option for families

From 4-6 p.m. Oct. 30, partner agencies lined the newly opened First Creek at Austin Phase I community room for some trunk-or-treat fun. One of those partner agencies was Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee’s Resilient Families.

“A lot of our families are KCDC residents,” Savannah, Resilient Families coach, said. “We try to stay pretty connected with our community and the communities that they’re living in as well, so we want them to know that, hey, we’re out here, what we can provide, get our name out. A lot of our referrals are word of mouth, so it’s coming from other community providers, it’s coming from clients who have been successful in our program and enjoyed it and are sharing with their friends.”

Having attended two of the three trunk-or-treats, Savannah and her fellow family coach Erica felt the events were a success, as they offered a great opportunity to connect with residents. The two gave candy and plastic toys for the kids, and brochures for the adults.

“With the trunk-or-treat versus the trick-or-treating, I would say parents get more information about what’s going on in the community,” Erica said. “They get the resources that’s available at each table versus trick-or-treating where we’re just waiting for our kids.”

KCDC’s trunk-or-treats also served as a fun option for children to dress in their costume but do so in a safe environment. That was the case for Manaishia, who attended First Creek’s event with her 6-month-old son and other family and friends. Manaishia’s cousin lives in First Creek.

“I think they’re fun for little kids because some kids they can’t go out or stay out too late on Halloween to trick-or-treat, so I feel like this is a way that they can get most of their candy and see other little kids,” Manaishia said.

Jalisa, who attended with her 3-year-old niece, Khellsi, didn’t know about the event until she saw Knoxville Police Department outside. Since First Creek opened, Jalisa’s niece has lived with her grandmother after her mother died.

“I think it’s a good thing for the kids,” Jalisa said. “I was out here when the old Austin Homes was out here, and we didn’t have this. I think it’s an awesome thing for the kids and the community.”

Jalisa lived in Austin Homes from 2009-15. She said she hopes more events like the trunk-or-treat happen in the newly developed community.

“Just only because there’s a lot of kids out here – my niece is out here, you know, they need stuff like this,” she said. “She’s lost a parent, and she has another parent that is just not there for her, so she needs stuff like this.”





HERE ARE THE **WINNERS**

Autumn Landing:

- First Place - Boys
 - Chase Williams
- Second Place - Boys
 - Dokota Reed
- First Place - Girls
 - Audrey Sherman
- Second Place - Girls
 - River Boatwright
- Honorable Mention
 - Taylor James



First Creek at Austin:

- First Place - Boys
 - Jeremiah Mango
- Second Place - Boys
 - Maurice Bridges
- Third Place - Boys
 - Jay Everhart
- First Place - Girls
 - Name unavailable
- Second Place - Girls
 - Jordan Morris



** Information not available for Nature's Cove.*

Health & Wellness

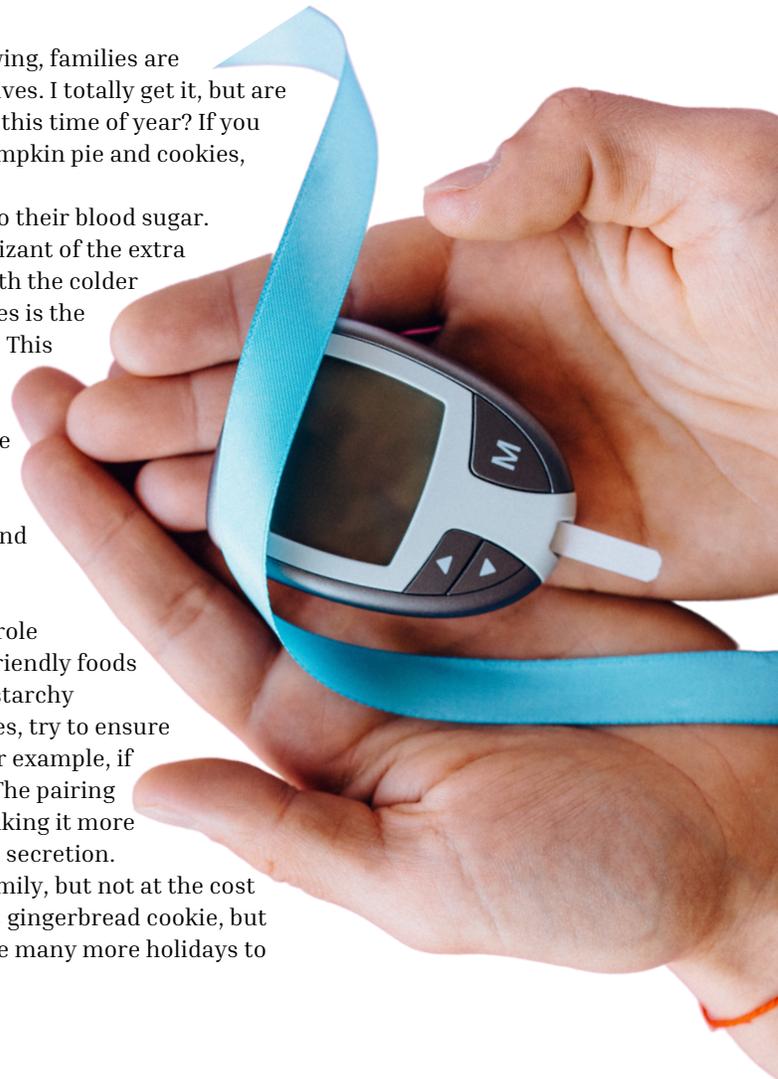
By Matt Rogers

For many, this is their favorite time of year. The holidays are in full swing, families are gathering, memories are being made, and they want to live their best lives. I totally get it, but are we living our healthiest lives? I ask because what is there a plethora of this time of year? If you guessed savory holiday food and a sleigh full of desserts like candy, pumpkin pie and cookies, then you're paying attention.

During the holidays, many not only struggle with their weight, but also their blood sugar. November is American Diabetes Month. It would be prudent to be cognizant of the extra added sugars consumed during this time of year, especially coupled with the colder weather where more are indoors in lieu of being outside. Type 2 diabetes is the most common offender which manifests via carbohydrate intolerance. This means that when you eat food that is broken down into glucose, your body is resistant to the insulin it is producing, therefore producing more insulin creating a domino effect with chronically elevated glucose and insulin. There is no cellular uptake of glucose to be used as energy, it stays in the bloodstream. Chronically elevated glucose leads to a myriad of adverse health conditions, including obesity, heart disease and kidney disease. Diabetes is a systemic issue impacting multiple organ systems.

The good news is you have a choice. The food you eat plays a massive role with respect to insulin sensitivity. Therefore, choose glucose/insulin-friendly foods such as quality sourced proteins like wild caught fish, and lots of non-starchy vegetables like broccoli and cauliflower. When you do eat carbohydrates, try to ensure they are from whole real foods and pair it with a protein/fat source. For example, if you would like to have toast for breakfast, try to pair it with two eggs. The pairing of carbs with protein and fat will mitigate a drastic spike in glucose making it more manageable for your pancreas to stabilize glucose elevation via insulin secretion.

I encourage you to enjoy the holiday seasons with your friends and family, but not at the cost of your health. Absolutely have the slice of pumpkin pie or that famous gingerbread cookie, but try to be astute in your perspective of holiday food intake. You will have many more holidays to celebrate!



Did you know?



37.3M
adults had
diabetes in 2019



96M
Americans 18+ had
prediabetes in 2019



1.4M
new diagnoses
per year



7th
leading cause of
death in U.S. in 2019



\$327B
total cost in
2017

*Numbers taken from the American Diabetes Association.

Tailgate Fun

For at least a couple hours toward the end of September, coworkers spanning multiple properties and offices came together for fellowship during KCDC's Tailgate Party. The party, which occurred 2-4 p.m. Sept. 29 in the main office courtyard, was headed up by KCDC's Community Involvement Committee for the second year in a row. Coworkers were treated to a walking taco bar, live music from The Thrift Store Scores and raffled items. Planning began around a month before and was led by CIC member Lanita Puckett.

"I hope that everyone had a good time," Lanita said. "That was our main goal, was just for everyone to enjoy themselves."

As the name suggests, CIC's mission is community involvement, and Lanita felt the tailgate party met the criteria.

"The tailgate fell in line (with CIC's mission) because our team, our staff, they are part of the community," Lanita said. "They're part of not only our work community but also the community outside of KCDC. We just wanted to do something to show them our appreciation, allow them to sort of kick back and relax and let them know, 'Hey guys, we're thinking about you.'"

Lanita said roughly 45 items were raffled off, including gift cards, a blanket, tote bags and "limited edition" Barbie makeup kits. The items came from Lanita, her staff, the housing department and community businesses.

One of those who received a raffled item was accounting technician Marcia Scranton.

"I like the camaraderie," Marcia said. "I like being able to see the different people and have conversations and meet all the folks from all the different properties that are really doing a good job for our community."

“The tailgate fell in line because our team, our staff, they are part of the community. They're part of not only our work community but also the community outside of KCDC. We just wanted to do something to show them our appreciation, allow them to sort of kick back and relax and let them know, 'Hey guys, we're thinking about you.'”

- Lanita Puckett



Although Marcia has only been with KCDC for nearly two years – her anniversary falls in February – she left with one notable thing in mind.

"That we're all one big team," she said. "Even though we don't see each other every day, we're all working toward the same goal."

Thomas Bleeker got to see the tailgate party from a slightly different perspective from last year when he volunteered through AmeriCorps as health services coordinator and served hot dogs and hamburgers. This time around, he got to sit back and relax in his new role with KCDC as senior development analyst.

Thomas isn't a University of Tennessee fan, but he jokingly said he should be since he's going back to school for his master's degree in public policy and administration.

"I think it's good, it's a morale builder," he said. "There's a lot of football fans, a lot of Tennessee fans, so it's hard to get away from that being in Knoxville. It gives people sort of a chance to coalesce around that, relax a little bit. I think it's also good for teambuilding, too. If you can get to know someone outside of just an office setting, kind of humanize them a little bit more, I think you'll work better with them."

That's how Joy Patrick felt, who for 18 years has been KCDC's executive assistant.

"We used to have several of these a year, not tailgates but just get-togethers – our employee appreciation and then we'd do a chili cookoff, those were the standards," she said.

“Even when we did United Way, to raise money we would do a hot dog thing, and everybody would donate, and that would all go to United Way. So, there were like three events that we could kind of get together.”

Overall, Joy felt Lanita and the CIC “homerunned this one.”

“We’ve got a good committee this year that’s willing to put in the work, even though they know it’s after-hours,” she said. “... The committee this year, they’ve been great, and they have put in a lot of time. I mean, Lanita – her and her committee for this – have been here all day cooking, putting all of that together and all of this. I mean, I’m just very impressed. They’ve done a great job.”

Before the tailgate ended, Xfinity Communities Account Representative Will Savage, who helped provide some of the raffled gifts, said a few words on what KCDC’s mission meant to him and what a helping hand could do for residents living in KCDC communities. Although he didn’t grow up in Tennessee, he said he wanted to give thanks because he couldn’t show his appreciation now to the ones who helped him then as an 8-year-old boy.

“That was me, and thank you now for him 30 years from now because he probably won’t have an opportunity thank you all,” Will said during the tailgate.

Will’s story is an example of why Lanita – and likely many others – got into the career they have today.

“I think it does come full circle that the people that we may not think remember us now, years later we still have a positive impact on them and they remember those (who helped them),” Lanita said. “Housing is a big deal, so I think it’s great that we can all participate in helping actually shape people’s futures.”

Holiday gatherings

Two more gatherings are expected this year, with a Thanksgiving breakfast set for tomorrow and a luncheon a few days before Christmas. Both will be potlucks, which CIC Chairwoman Stephanie Fisher believes will allow coworkers a chance to showcase their cooking talents.

“It is a time of sharing, of giving and of communion with your ‘village,’” Grae Potter, CIC co-chairman, said. “The fun part is that you never know what is going to show up. The beautiful part is the concept that we can all bring a little bit to the table, but what we accomplish as a community is the creation of a feast where we all have enough, and everyone is fed.”

The Thanksgiving breakfast is set for 8-9:30 a.m. tomorrow, Nov. 16, in the First Creek at Austin community room. The main courses will be sweet potato pancakes, regular pancakes and sausage, so that leaves side dishes and drinks that need to be brought.

The Christmas luncheon, which is set for noon-1:30 p.m. Dec. 21 at an undetermined location, will be in a similar format to last year’s “Finest of the Feast.” Stephanie called the luncheon the “Finest of the Feast Part Deux.”



16
NOV

Thanksgiving Breakfast

8-9:30 A.M. – FC COMMUNITY ROOM

21
DEC

Christmas Luncheon

NOON-1:30 P.M. – TBD

“We are doing the same thing this year because of several requests to have the same type of event,” Stephanie said. “Last year’s event was fun and relaxing. Each person got to bring their favorite dish and then got to spend time with other people outside of their given properties. There was no ‘order’ to the event, but just a time to get together and eat and chat.”

Finest of the Feast will include a friendly, straightforward competition among peers – the top three best entrées, side dishes or desserts will win.

More information will be sent out when the luncheon gets closer.

“If the winner is agreeable, we might even post the recipe in our next newsletter,” Grae said.

Video: Click [here](#) for a video of the 2023 KCDC Tailgate Party.



Editor's Note

I'd be lying if I said Veterans Day has always meant something special to me. When I was a kid, the day was just a way to get out of class and avoid my inevitable floundering in math or science — I was awful in both, believe me. Just terrible. But as I grew older and, thankfully, matured, I learned more about the day and gained an appreciation, especially as I got to meet and become friends with veterans while covering several stories as a reporter.

So, what is Veterans Day? "It's a way to honor military veterans," you say. Correct! But why do we celebrate it on Nov. 11? If you didn't know, its origins date back to 1918 when World War I ended on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. The day became known as Armistice Day, and in 1926 it was officially named through a congressional resolution. Twelve years later, it became a national holiday through congressional action.

According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the first celebration to use "Veterans Day" occurred Nov. 11, 1947, in Birmingham, Ala., when World War II veteran Raymond Weeks organized "National Veterans Day." The celebration included a parade and other festivities to honor every veteran. In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower officially signed a bill proclaiming Nov. 11 as the national holiday it's known as today. If you're interested in learning more about the holiday, I encourage you to click [here](#).

I think — or hope — I speak for everyone here when I say thank you for your service. No matter how big or small your role was, I can promise you when I say each and every one of you are heroes.



What are **you** Thankful for?



Ashley Ogle

I'm grateful for my son, his name's Eli. He's 23 and lives in California. He's a Marine veteran, and I'm just so proud of him. I'm also very grateful for 24 years at KCDC. KCDC has afforded me the income and the work-life balance to get him raised into the great man that he is today.



Patricia Clement

Be grateful, every day.



Eugene Littlejohn

I'm thankful for family and friends and the Dallas Cowboys and the Vols!



Daniel Schofield

Just thankful for having control over my mind, body and my limbs, and my family.



Joshua Barbour

My wife, obviously. She's a really big part of my life, very important to me. She provides me with a lot of love and support. Then I think just getting to work with such wonderful, kind people makes my job a lot easier. I feel like I get to work with a great boss, great company.



LaContra Mills

A lot. Thankful for my job, for family and just life.



Joshua Kitchen

I'm thankful for my kids and wife of 18 years. My health, and a good job. I'm also thankful to have my parents still alive.



Rachel Chisholm

I am grateful for the love and support of my family and friends. I am also grateful for the opportunity to be a mother to my precious bambinas!



Thomas Bleeker

I'm thankful for the spirit of caring support that permeates so much of what we do at KCDC. I'm thankful for the AmeriCorps, for both their friendship and service. And I am thankful for cheesecake.



Becky Eshbaugh

I'm thankful that I have grandkids. I've got 13 grandkids and two great-grandbabies, and my kids.



Susan Troop

I am thankful for kind people, smiling faces, and opportunities to show kindness to others.



Amy Garrick

Three things I know that I'm not thankful for and that would be okra, peas and camel crickets because those aren't my things. I'm very thankful for my coworkers, especially in admissions and at the properties. They are very helpful in helping me trying to be of service, and they are helping me learn the job so I can better serve them, and I appreciate their patience while I'm learning. And I'm also thankful for cold brew coffee to keep me going in the afternoon.



Lanita Puckett

I'm always thankful for my health and strength. I'm thankful for family and friends. And on a silly note, I'm thankful that I have a sense of humor because I need it.



James Pruitt

The Lord has been so good to me! I still have both of my parents and they are in good health. My son is now 25 years old after having a brain tumor when he was 6 years old. In 2022, my wife had breast cancer and had to have radiation treatment, but she is doing fine right now. I'm thankful for my family, friends and co-workers. I've been blessed to have worked with some of the best people in the world at KCDC. I'm thankful for my health as well. I'm truly blessed and thankful!

Partnership Appreciation

By Marisa Moazen

During this season of being thankful, we want to feature a longstanding KCDC partner – Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee.

Second Harvest does an amazing job serving Knox and 17 other counties across East Tennessee. The nonprofit receives food and monetary donations from grocery stores, corporate sponsors, community food drives and individuals. They then turn around and distribute that food into our communities.

KCDC participates in a variety of Second Harvest programs, including Senior Outreach, Mobile Distributions, Good eaTN Cooking Club and the Food Rescue Partnership. We're also working on a first-of-its-kind prototype store concept for Western Heights!

Second Harvest works with other partners on site, too, including Matter Health at the four high-rises. They work together to distribute Food is Health emergency boxes to patients during health care appointments, which are tailored to meet specific dietary needs such as low sodium. Second Harvest also partners with the four family property Boys and Girls Clubs, providing food and classes. For the two properties with “centers” – Western Heights and Montgomery Village – they provide food pantry provisions and after-school snacks. And finally, they partner with The Dream Center who provides food reclamation distributions once a week at Montgomery Village.

We are so thankful for all Second Harvest provides to the residents in Knoxville.



Showcase

Finance Department

By Randall Brown

The Finance Department works to provide financial management, oversight and information to departments, agencies, investors and the community so they can make informed decisions to achieve KCDC's mission.

Finance helps prepare financials for all the KCDC programs. Programs include Section 8, housing, development and several others.

The Finance team is led by Finance Director Randall Brown, who has been with KCDC for eight years and helps oversee the different areas in the department. Our department reports to Chief Financial Officer Nancy White. She has been with KCDC for almost two years. Nancy's prior experience has brought valuable insight and leadership to the department during our changing times.

Finance has different focus areas. These areas include but are not limited to accounts payable, corporate accounts receivable, payroll, corporate accounting, development/redevelopment, Section 8 and property accounting. The accounts payable team consists of Marcia Scranton and Jodie Bowmer. With the oversight of Assistant Finance Director David McAndrews, they work closely with staff and vendors to process all the agency's invoices.

The accounts receivable (AR) team is Melody Laws and David McAndrews. They help with corporate AR collection and working with KCDC clients. Melody has also helped with tenant AR balances and move-outs and worked with staff as this has transitioned with the Yardi conversion.

Since Yardi

- Processed 10,370 invoices for payment
- Averaged 864 invoices per month

Finance's largest team is property accounting. Christine Clegg is our property accountant manager that leads this group of five property accountants. The group includes Linda Thomas, Elaine Natividad, Rachel Chisholm, Mary Huffaker and Tanner Bearith. KCDC has 28 properties, and growing, that Finance manages. Staff works closely with housing staff to review, prepare and manage the property financial reports for management, lenders, auditors and outside partners.



Back row, from left, are Melody Laws, Linda Thomas, Tanner Bearith, Mary Huffaker, Paul Cunningham, Daniel Martin, Christine Clegg, Nancy White, Jodie Bowmer, Randall Brown, Rachel Chisholm and David McAndrews; front row, from left, are Elaine Natividad, Marcia Scranton and Debra Dills.

The payroll area is covered by Rachel Chisholm and Debbie Dills. They work hard to process payroll for employees every two weeks or 26 times a year. They are probably the organization's favorite Finance employees.

The development/redevelopment area in Finance is David McAndrews and Daniel Martin. They work closely with the development/redevelopment management team and help with new construction and rehab projects KCDC has going on.

For Section 8, Paul Cunningham is the Section 8 program accountant. Paul has been with KCDC since July and will be learning and helping oversee Section 8 programs for Finance.

On Location



KCDC Spotlight

The Spotlight aims to recognize the amazing things KCDC employees are doing to help make the community and workplace better. Email jnash@kcdc.org if you think there's someone we should highlight.

Peter McKay

Property Manager - First Creek at Austin

For more than a year Peter McKay has helped serve the First Creek at Austin community.

The Bearden High School graduate joined KCDC in April 2022 as assistant property manager and since March has been the community's property manager. After one year with the Tennessee Department of Human Services as eligibility counselor, Peter made the move to KCDC because he wanted to go somewhere he could grow, and KCDC fit that bill.

"Organizations like KCDC there's room to move up," Peter said. "I've had the opportunity to do that so far, I think the people in the past you've seen have always had the opportunity to do that, and KCDC does a good job of investing in its employees. ... I went to DHS because I believed in the mission. I came to KCDC because I believe in the mission."

Although Peter joined KCDC to find a better job, it wasn't until getting here and speaking with residents that he formed a passion for this line of work. He pointed to the exciting happenings at First Creek as the mixed-income, affordable housing community — a first of its kind in the Knoxville area — continues to grow with each phase built.

"I think I'm where I'm supposed to be," he said. "Sometimes things just work out in a way that you don't expect, and I'm a big believer of as long as you're ready for the opportunity because you never know when the opportunity is going to come, and being an assistant manager here was my opportunity, and then I got another opportunity again to be the manager here. It's not something I expected, but it's something that I'm very grateful for."

Although the position has its share of challenges, Peter believes seeing the good that comes with it makes all the difference. Moving in people, some of whom may be homeless, is "awesome," he said.

"We had one guy, he was like 28, living with his mom, didn't have a job, didn't have anything," he said. "He moves in here and six months later he has a job. Six months after that he's making so much money that we have to discontinue his subsidy. That's a real turnaround for a person. That's something that's pretty cool to see. Stuff like that. I think it's a lot of fun moving people in because people aren't always in the best situations coming here, so that's something that's really rewarding here."

Before Peter found his way to KCDC or DHS, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps right out of high school at 17 years old because he wanted to serve his country. From 2010-16 he was a light



armored vehicle crewman at Camp Pendleton in southern California and undertook various roles, including driver, gunner, vehicle commander and gunnery coach.

"What was cool about the Marine Corps for me was I got a chance to do a bunch of different things," he said. "I think the military is a fantastic opportunity for people if they take advantage of it."

I think it's a lot of fun moving people in because people aren't always in the best situations coming here, so that's something that's really rewarding here.

One of those opportunities was the ability to play football game again. He played two seasons on the battalion team and four games on the base team competing against other bases. Peter recalled one time he was out on the range for a week and just assumed he wouldn't play.

"We'd missed players every week because guys would be off training, so (my coach) said, 'No problem'," he said.

"But it was a big game, we were playing the other best team on base and the battalion commander ordered everybody that was out training to come back for the game. So, they sent a truck out to pick me up. I'm covered in dirt, they picked me up and they drove me to the field. Somebody had my pads, they got them out of my room.

"I go in, change in the bathroom, I'm still covered in dirt," he added. "I played a football game, I don't shower, I come back, I change back into my dirty clothes, and then I go back out to the field for three more days."

He also had the opportunity to be a martial arts instructor for a little while. Peter took up jiu-jitsu at 21 years old, and 10 years later that hobby remains strong. He's currently a brown belt under 10-time world champion and black belt Samuel Braga.

"It's my favorite thing, honestly," Peter said. "You don't really get many opportunities as an adult to play sports. This was my opportunity to keep playing sports. It's just fun. I'll do that two to

three times a week and ... it's part of why I don't miss the military because it's a lot of former military guys. You just go there, you get some of that camaraderie and you just wrestle and try to choke each other. It's a good time."

Peter said he misses the people but not the other aspects that come with the military, notably the inability to lead an ordinary life. That played a big role in his departure. After he left, Peter attended the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and graduated in 2020 with a degree in political science. He followed that up with a master's degree in public policy and administration in 2021. It was during this time that he met his eventual wife Drew. The two got married in May.

Both are the outdoorsy type. Peter loves to hunt while Drew loves to hike. Each year they hike several times. They also more recently took up running, with the couple doing half-marathons this year outside Zion National Park in Utah and at the base of the Great Smoky Mountains. The next goal is to train for a marathon sometime next year.

When he's not hiking with his wife, Peter can also be found out in the wilderness hunting deer, bear or turkey with friends and family. For a week last month, he traveled to British Columbia, Canada, to bow hunt bear with his father. Since he was a child, hunting has been a pastime for him, and it's something he hopes to do with his children when the time comes.

"It's just fun, man," he said. "I know it's cliché to say but there's just so much noise. I have a hectic job, we have hectic lives, there's TVs, there's internet. There's always a million things coming at us, and I'm like a really high-energy guy, I always want to do something, so I think it's just good for me emotionally to just sit in the woods for a few hours. It's super cool, it's super calming."



Walk to School

Thanks to Second Harvest of East Tennessee, KCDC handed out bags of fresh fruit to Beaumont Magnet Academy students during Walk to School Day Oct. 4 in Western Heights. Other participants that morning included The Center at Western Heights, Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee, Bike Walk Knoxville and the Boys & Girls Club.



Community Focus

Isabella Towers

Isabella Towers is a 236-unit community off Isabella Circle. The property opened in 1972. According to an early 1970s Knoxville News Sentinel story, it was the first example in Tennessee of a cooperative partnership between organizations such as The Knox Area Urban League, a housing authority and private developers. The project was sponsored by the Urban League, which created Knoxville Housing Corp., to sell bonds to finance the building. Knoxville Housing Partnership served as developers, whose principals were Alex Harkness and Pat Wood. KCDC managed the project at the time and took ownership at the end of 20 years. Isabella most recently underwent a \$5.5 million renovation that included new flooring and appliances in each unit and an additional 14 ADA units on the property. Renovations also included new cabinets, lighting, and heating and air conditioning units that align with KCDC's sustainability and energy-efficiency initiatives.

The community is one of four KCDC high-rises that provide an on-site wellness center through a partnership with Matter Health.

Did you know?

Isabella Towers used to be the location for The Manor – formerly Bridgeview before it moved to Northgate Terrace – which offers independent living for seniors experiencing issues with the aging process. According to a 1984 Knoxville News Sentinel story, the community also used to offer a small grocery store – called Isabella Towers Mini Store – inside the building for residents.



New Hires

The following were recently hired through Oct. 31 at Knoxville's Community Development Corporation:



Timothy Hatmaker
 Hired: 9/11/23
 Title: Maintenance Director
 Place: Main Office



Shaphin Martin
 Hired: 10/23/23
 Title: Assistant Property Manager
 Place: Cagle Terrace



Charjuan Hayes
 Hired: 10/24/23
 Title: Apt. Maintenance Tech.
 Place: Five Points



Catrena Anderson
 Hired: 9/25/23
 Title: Occupancy Specialist
 Place: Section 8



Martin Robach
 Hired: 10/23/23
 Title: Apt. Maintenance Tech.
 Place: Lonsdale Homes



Berma Mathieu
 Hired: 10/02/23
 Title: Apt. Maintenance Tech.
 Place: Lonsdale Homes

Retirements

The following recently retired from Knoxville's Community Development Corporation:



Gary Angelovich
 Retired: 10/2/23
 Title: Apt. Maintenance Tech.
 Place: Lonsdale Homes



Jerry Branche
 Retired: 9/1/23 (now in a part-time role)
 Title: Admissions Specialist
 Place: Main Office

HR Update

Discount program offered

By Marisa Moazen

Did you know that one of the benefits of working at KCDC is access to the State of Tennessee PerkSpot Discount Portal? You can access benefits such as discounts on Sam's Club memberships, movie tickets, child care discounts, theme parks, 5% off anything on eBay, and much more!

To register to receive the deals, go to the website and choose create your account, choose 'Local Government' and then from the drop down menu, choose 'Knoxville's Community Development Corporation.'

Click [here](#) to register.



Partner Agency Resources

- **Furniture Ministry** – CedarBrook Outreach offers free furniture to residents in need. Furniture can be requested and donated at cedarbrookoutreach.org/furniture-ministry.

Newsletter Dates

The Bulletin is scheduled to be released every two months. Unless a delay is needed, publication will typically fall on the first full week of the month.

- **January-February Edition:** Jan. 8-12
- **March-April Edition:** March 4-8
- **May-June Edition:** May 6-10

Newsletter ideas

Got something you think could be in The Bulletin? Email information to jnash@kcdc.org. The deadline for content will typically fall on the last Monday or Tuesday of the month before publication.

