

# 12 SOUTH

## The 12 South Neighborhood Association Newsletter

### Monthly Meetings

The 12 South Neighborhood Association's April meeting is on Monday, April 4th at 6:30pm at the Sevier Park Community Center. Everyone is invited to attend and get involved!

Our meetings are on the first Monday of each month at 6:30pm at the Sevier Park Community Center.

### 2016 Home Tour

The 2016 12 South Home Tour is on Saturday, April 23rd 2016. Tickets are \$12 in advance and are available now at [www.12south.org](http://www.12south.org).

### Stay In Touch

Want to know what's happening in the neighborhood? Check out our [website](http://www.12south.org), find us on [Facebook](#), or [Twitter](#), or contact us by email [info@12south.org](mailto:info@12south.org) to be added to our mailing list.



## The Newsletter Is Back!

That's right, the 12 South Neighborhood Association Newsletter is back! We wanted a way to talk about what's happening in the neighborhood with a little more detail than you normally get on social media (and without all the things for sale and missing pets).

This month's newsletter includes our first Neighborhood Profile on the Islamic Center of Nashville, information about the 2016 Home Tour - our biggest fund raiser of the year - buy your tickets today, an update on Neighborhood Association membership and the formation of a Neighborhood Watch, and some information about a new Metro program for significant or historic trees.

We're always interested in what you have to say. Is something happening in the neighborhood that's important to you? Someone or some place we should profile in the newsletter? Want to write something for the newsletter? Tell us about it - [info@12south.org](mailto:info@12south.org). It's your neighborhood.

Our April meeting is on this coming Monday, April 4th at 6:30pm at the Sevier Park Community Center. The Waverly-Belmont Elementary School PTO will present plans for their new playground and MTA will be there to discuss transportation plans for the city and the neighborhood.

### MTA nMotion Talks

Nashville MTA/RTA is developing a strategic transit plan for the city and region and they want your feedback. They'll be at our neighborhood meeting on Monday April 4th. You can learn more on their website [www.nmotion2015.com](http://www.nmotion2015.com)

### Diversity Brunch

The ICN is holding their 2nd Annual Diversity Brunch on Saturday April 2nd, from 11am to 1:30pm. Get the chance to see the mosque and observe, learn about different nationalities, taste food from all over the world, and vote for the best food and display. This event is free and open to the public.

## Staying in Touch is Easy!

You'll find community information news, events and more on our website at [www.12south.org](http://www.12south.org). We cross post to the appropriate social networks and you can get on our e-mail distribution list by becoming an association member. NextDoor is also a great way to keep up with your local community, you can sign up for that service at [12south.nextdoor.com](http://12south.nextdoor.com). If you have any questions, make sure to reach out to us via email at [info@12south.org](mailto:info@12south.org).

Website: [12south.org](http://12south.org)

Email: [info@12south.org](mailto:info@12south.org)

Twitter: [12SouthNash](https://twitter.com/12SouthNash)

Instagram: [12SouthNash](https://www.instagram.com/12SouthNash)

Facebook: [12SouthNeighborhood](https://www.facebook.com/12SouthNeighborhood)

Hashtag: [#12South](https://www.facebook.com/12SouthNeighborhood)

## Neighborhood Profile: The Islamic Center of Nashville



The Islamic Center of Nashville's mosque at the corner of 12th Avenue and Sweetbriar has been a prominent fixture of the neighborhood and Muslim life in Nashville for decades. Every Friday the mosque fills with a diverse group of worshippers offering Jumu'a prayer. The ICN holds educational and social events, worship services, and is working to build a Muslim Community Complex on Charlotte Pike, where a full time Islamic school, Nashville Int'l Academy, for students from Pre-K thru 8th grade, has been operating since 1995. The ICN is active

## State of Metro

Mayor Megan Barry is giving her first State of Metro Address on April 29th at 11:30am at the Ascend Amphitheater. RSVP for the event at [53som.eventbrite.com](http://53som.eventbrite.com)

## Metro Arts Survey

The Metro Arts Commission is developing a city wide public art plan and wants feedback. Take their short survey [bit.ly/1RzUVqg](http://bit.ly/1RzUVqg)

in the broader community as well, providing educational opportunities for people to learn about Islam and the ICN on a weekly basis, while partnering with other organizations in areas of social justice (e.g., NOAH, YWCA, You Have The Power, ONE, Room In The Inn, South Nashville Fellowship Community Development Corp, TIRRC, etc)

Rashed Fakhruddin is currently serving as the president of the ICN and is always busy in the neighborhood. (You can meet him most every month at the 12 South Neighborhood Association meetings!) The mosque also recently hired its first Imam, Sheikh Ossama Bahloul, who will officially start his duties on April 15th. Sheikh Ossama is tasked with providing educational and spiritual programming for the ICN with the aim of making the mosque the epicenter of Islamic knowledge and service in Middle Tennessee. Welcome to 12 South Sheikh Ossama!

The ICN is holding their 2nd Annual Diversity Brunch on Saturday April 2nd from 11am to 1:30pm at the mosque. Members of the Muslim community will be serving food from over 40 nationalities. The event is free and everyone is invited to attend. It's a great opportunity to taste amazing food from all over the world and meet members of the ICN.

The ICN is in the process of getting a new sign at the mosque. Neighbors should see the new sign up on the corner of 12th and Sweetbriar in the near future.

So how did the ICN get it's start in 12 South? By the end of the 1970s there were around 40 Muslims holding Friday prayer services at what was then known as the Afro House at Vanderbilt University - today Vanderbilt's Black Cultural Center. They decided to formally organize as the Islamic Center of Nashville and raise money to purchase a building to serve as a permanent mosque for the community. They raised around \$30,000, and combined with a gift from Yusuf Islam (formerly the musician Cat Stevens), purchased a house on 12th Avenue South to use as their mosque. The old house served the community well as a mosque until 1989 when it was torn down and replaced by the larger building we see today.

In the 1990s the Muslim community in Nashville grew rapidly with the arrival of a large number of Kurdish and Somali Muslims. The Muslim community in Nashville remains diverse, with

## Support Your Neighborhood

It's your neighborhood association - help support it with a donation at [www.12south.org](http://www.12south.org).

members from over 40 countries.

If you'd like to arrange a visit to the Islamic Center, send an email to [visiticn@icntn.org](mailto:visiticn@icntn.org), or visit their website for more information at <http://www.icntn.org/>.

## Neighborhood Association Membership Update

Hi Neighborhood!

I wanted to take this opportunity to explain a recent change the Board of Directors made in the Association By-Laws. We made the decision to no longer require dues to be paid to be an active member of the 12 South Association. We came to this decision after reviewing when and how dues were paid and then realizing that mostly they were paid in order for folks to be able to vote for Board members. This seemed like an outdated way of conducting elections, so we're planning on removing that barrier to voting.

Now I'm not letting any of you completely off the hook. We still need your memberships to help pay for the work we are doing in the Neighborhood. We also realize not everyone is able to afford set dues. All we ask is this: if you are capable of making a donation for your membership – please do! If not, no worries! In the past dues have been \$10 a year. With no set number, we ask that you just participate as you can. \$5, \$10, \$20, even \$100? All are amounts that will continue to enable the Association to exist and allow the Board to focus on bringing our neighborhood together, while working on important projects like Block Captains, Neighborhood Watch, Tree plantings and other issues important to you.

If there are neighborhood concerns that you would like to see addressed, please let us know. Donations can be made via the Association website at [www.12South.org](http://www.12South.org) or you are welcome to bring a check to one of our Association meetings.

If you have questions or concerns about the new membership structure or anything else related to the neighborhood please email us at [info@12south.org](mailto:info@12south.org). See you around the neighborhood!

Chris Cotton, 12 South Board member

## Home Tour Tickets

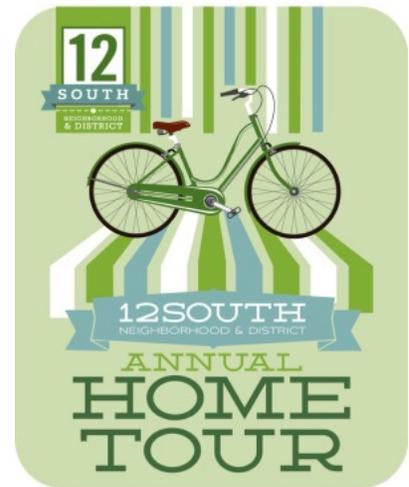
The 2016 12 South Home Tour is on Saturday, April 23rd 2016. Buy your tickets at [www.12south.org](http://www.12south.org).

## 12 South Home Tour

Mark your calendars for the 2016 12 South Home Tour to be held on Saturday, April 23, 2016. The Home Tour is the largest fundraising event for the 12 South Neighborhood Association. Money raised from the event will go toward many neighborhood beautification efforts and programs. As an example of our programs, the 2015 proceeds were used to fulfill many necessary items for the teaching staff at Waverly-Belmont Elementary School.

The Home Tour is more than just an opportunity to showcase our neighborhood. The fun-filled weekend also serves as an opportunity for neighbors to catch up with old friends and meet new neighbors.

Tickets for the event are \$12 in advance and \$15 the day of the Tour, and to purchase tickets in advance, use the



'Buy Now' button at [www.12south.org](http://www.12south.org). Then to pick up your wristband the day of the Tour, or to purchase a ticket the day of the Tour, visit the Home Tour tent next to 12South Yoga starting at 10:00 a.m. on Tour Day.

## Historic & Specimen Trees

As Nashville rapidly grows, many of our old trees are being cut down. Even if new trees are planted, it takes decades to replace the large, old trees that make our neighborhood green.

The Metro Historic & Specimen Tree Program seeks to preserve the trees in Nashville that are "stellar examples of their species, are associated with a historical site or person, or story." If you are interested in protecting a tree on your property, please get in touch with the Metro Public Works Beautification Committee - link in the sidebar - or contact us as [info@12south.org](mailto:info@12south.org) and we'll put you in touch with the right people.

## Protect Old Trees

Learn more about Metro's Historic and Specimen Tree Program or nominate a tree - [bit.ly/1paZpw4](http://bit.ly/1paZpw4)

## Neighborhood Watch & Block Captains

The 12 South Neighborhood Association is working to establish a neighborhood watch and we need your help. We're actively seeking block captains from every block in the neighborhood. If you are interested in getting involved, please email us at [info@12south.org](mailto:info@12south.org).

## March Meeting Recap

If you missed last month's meeting, here's a recap of the minutes.

**Welcome** - Chris Cotton called to order at 6:31pm

**Introduction** - Board and neighborhood attendees, Nathan Hubbard absent due to injury

### Announcements

Will Pinkston, school board member discussed the school director search.

Rashed Fakhruddin of the Islamic Center discussed the upcoming Diversity Brunch.

Jack Davis discussed the upcoming Sevier Park Fest on 5/6 and 5/7 in support of The Friends of Sevier Park. Tickets are \$25 and available at [www.sevierparkfest.com](http://www.sevierparkfest.com).

Colby Sledge, district 17 Councilman, discussed the conservation overlay and demolition permits, affordable housing efforts, beer sales as Grimeys/The Basement.

Sgt. Jones, Chris Cotton, and Donald Thompson discussed the Sunnyside Neighbors meeting, the Midtown Hills Precinct community mural project, and the Yellow Dot Program.

### Approval of Minutes

### Old Business

Kerry Conley discussed the formation of a neighborhood watch and the creation of block captains.

Lauren Reese discussed the upcoming Home Tour.

Bill Mays requested more trashcans on 12th Avenue South. Councilman Sledge agreed to look into it.

### **New Business**

The Neighborhood Association's 501-c3 status had been revoked in October. We filed the appropriate paperwork to get it reinstated and paid a fine. Approved by board.

There is no record of the Neighborhood Association filing its IRS paperwork since 2013. Board agrees to resolve and pay and necessary fees.

Chris Koch, our treasurer, just recently got access to the Neighborhood Association mailbox. He found over a year's worth of liability insurance bills (-\$1500) that were unpaid and discovered that our insurance had been revoked and the bills turned over to collections. Board agrees that Chris Koch will investigate and resolve, getting new insurance, as needed.

Lee Moneta-Koehler discussed utilizing block captains as a day to communication with neighbors who don't use digital media. We are now posting information to Facebook, Twitter, NextDoor, and our website.

Donald Thomson discussed getting more neighbors - other communities and demographics - involved. Email [info@12south.org](mailto:info@12south.org) to set up a meeting with him if you want to get involved.

Chris Cotton discussed membership/dues changes.

Lorre Mendelson discussed setting up a community information booth at the Sevier Park Fest and the 12 South Farmer's Market.

Lee Moneta-Koehler discussed the Big Old Tree Contest.

Chris Koch discussed ongoing maintenance on the 12 South sign by Bryan Landscaping. Deferred a decision on paying for this service until April.

### **April Meeting Plans**

We'll try to get a microphone for the April Meeting. MTA/RTA will present on the nMotion transportation plan for Nashville and it's impact on 12 South. Meeting Adjourned.