

PARTY WITH A PURPOSE: Volunteers needed for annual neighborhood cleanup

By DAVID POLLARD DPOLLARD@SANFORDHERALD.COM Mar 4, 2022

Homes, lawns, streets and just about anything will be getting some attention, part of the city's annual neighborhood cleaning event

The 10th Annual Sanford Block Party will take place 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on April 23 in the areas of N. First, N. Second, N. Third and N. Fourth Streets along with Midland and North Avenues.

Volunteers from East Sanford Baptist Church and Jonesboro United Methodist Church will be out that day to spruce up those areas. More volunteers, whatever the amount, are welcome to take part in the event.

Karen Kennedy, Sanford's community development manager and organizer of the event, said it has been a long time coming because of the pandemic, but she is looking forward to restarting the annual tradition.

"We had to lay off two years," she said. "We're going back to the same area on the East Side. We sent out consent forms to all the property owners to see if they are interested."

She said there are about 30 homes in the targeted area, but about half returned their consent forms, but may not exclude homes from getting some attention. Kennedy said any work done will be on the exterior only and be limited to simple repairs.

There will be plenty of mulch, picking up of refuse, grass cutting, planting of flowers and other things to rejuvenate the area.

"Hopefully it will be another great day," she said. "We are going to have some presenters back from the first one."

"It's just a great event," she said. "It gets the community involved. Church goers will be talking to neighbors do some walkabouts and see what they are about and what their needs may have."

Breakfast and lunch will be provided and volunteers should meet at East Sanford Baptist Church, 300 North Ave., before at 8 a.m. prior to getting started.

Kennedy said anyone willing to put in some time to volunteer are welcome and should dress to get dirty and come COVID-19 friendly.

To volunteer or get information on the event call 919-718-4657 x5391 or karen.kennedy@sandfordnc.net.