



### A HISTORY OF GOOD TIMES

Downtown Fountain City is home to a fantastic mix of parks with interesting history, famous eateries and new, cutting-edge boutiques. (Clockwise from left) Fountain City Park, The Fountain City Duck Pond, Litton's, Scrappin' in the City, Pratt's Country Store.



## Fountain City

With brand-new business intertwining with old Southern charm, the heart of North Knoxville has plenty for everyone

**F**OUNTAIN CITY HAS A CERTAIN timeless appeal. Perhaps it's the downtown's well-established streets, the historic architecture that seems as much a local fixture as the land itself. Or maybe it's the way locals refer to anything built post-1950 as "new construction." Flanked by Black Oak Ridge and Clinch Mountain, it's hard to believe Fountain City isn't as old as the hills surrounding it. But, before it was Fountain City, it was land grant No.

28, a square mile of land settled by Irishman John Adair and the site of a supply station for Nashville-bound adventurers traveling Emory Road. As the depot grew into a small Southern town, it never fully shed its humble roots as a frontier go-between. Fountain City remained America's largest unincorporated U.S. city until its 1962 annexation, but, even as it was absorbed by Knoxville, Fountain City residents clung tightly to their slice of small-town America. They worked to preserve local landmarks and carved out communal spaces like Fountain City Park, transforming the tree-lined streets into a hotbed of area history and culture. As Fountain City maintained its quaint Southern charm, it emerged as one Knoxville community that's simply unforgettable today.



## THE TASTES AND SMELLS OF DOWNTOWN

(Top left) Before you take a bite of one of these delicious-looking desserts, know they are actually works of art and aroma from Knoxville Soap and Candle. (Above) Baskin Robbins is part of one of Fountain City's newest shopping centers and perfect post-Litton's. (Top right & down) The Amber Restaurant will make you feel like you're eating the best ole-fashioned cookin' since your mamma's table. Watermelons from Pratt's are great while it's still warm outside. The Creamery is a staple of Fountain City that doesn't get enough praise. Don't forget about this place and its quaint atmosphere. Homegrown tomatoes go fast at Pratt's, too.

## Wine and Dine

In a place like Fountain City, where comfort and small-town charm reign, you can be sure of one thing—good food. You can't visit Fountain City without grabbing a bite at the area's go-to hamburger and dessert stop **LITTON'S MARKET AND RESTAURANT** (2803 Essary Drive, 688.0429, [littonburgers.com](http://littonburgers.com)), locally owned and operated since 1946. For a view of Fountain City Lake, head downtown to the famous **CREAMERY PARK GRILLE** (114 Hotel Road, 688.4607), featuring 18 flavors of ice cream and a to-die-for lunch and dinner menu. If it's a hearty Aouthern meal you're after, stop by **AMBER RESTAURANT** (5015 N. Broadway St., 688.1529), famous for their all-day breakfast and down-home dinner menu. Be sure to indulge in a sweet treat from **RITA'S BAKERY** (3023 Tazewell Pike, 688.5484), or get cozy in North Fountain City's neighborhood classic **LEO'S CAFE** (3029 Tazewell Pike, 281.8119, [leoscafe.com](http://leoscafe.com)).

## See and Do

Immerse yourself in the heart of downtown Fountain City and cruise the walking trails of the 12-acre **FOUNTAIN CITY PARK**, built on the site of the historic Fountain Head Hotel, or relax by **FOUNTAIN CITY LAKE**, affectionately known by locals as "the duck pond." Head to the far corner of the park to check out the gallery of local and student artwork at the **FOUNTAIN CITY ART CENTER** in the former library. For more outdoor fun, splash around in the fountains at **NEW HARVEST PARK** or shop the park's **FARMERS' MARKET** every Thursday evening (4-7 p.m.). Finish off your tour with a walk on the greenways of Fountain City's largest park, **ADAIR PARK**.

### HIDDEN TREASURE

#### Tomo Moves Into Town

*For decades, Fountain City has been known for some of the best down-home, All-American eateries in the region. But coming this month there will be a new kid on the block. Knoxville's recent sushi craze is spilling over to Fountain City with Tomo Japanese Restaurant and Sushi Bar **Tomo Japanese Restaurant** (4877 N Broadway St., 689.1999). Go try their "box" meals and dumplings for dessert.*



(Above) Fountain View Plaza is flourishing across from the duck pond. (Below) National Fitness has moved in and is making Fountain City sweat—in a good way.

## Shopping

Just steps from downtown, the newly-developed **FOUNTAIN VIEW PLAZA** boasts high-end stores like the home decor boutique **REBECCA'S INTERIORS AND GIFTS** (5210 N. Broadway St., 689.5858) and scrapbooking paradise **SCRAPPIN' IN THE CITY** (5216 N. Broadway St., 247.6879.) Stop by **KNOXVILLE SOAP, CANDLE AND GIFTS** (4664 Old Broadway St., 689.6545, [knoxvillesoapfactory.com](http://knoxvillesoapfactory.com)) for a selection of handcrafted soaps and novelty items, or check out the hands-on studio at **FOUNTAIN CITY STAINED GLASS** (1328 Buchanan Ave., 688.3333, [fountaincitystainedglass.com](http://fountaincitystainedglass.com)).



## Move In

As new home construction boomed in Knoxville, Fountain City managed to preserve the small-town charm of its historic Craftsman style neighborhoods off Gibbs Rd, Tazewell Pike and in the Emoriland subdivision. Minutes from downtown, these Fountain City favorites are centrally located near the



(Above) Take a walk, bring a picnic or take your kids to Fountain City Park and enjoy the quiet of central Fountain City.

area's public schools Fountain City Elementary, Sterchi Elementary, Gresham Middle School and Central High School and private schools like Garden Montessori and St. Joseph Elementary. For mid-century homes, check out **HARRILL HILLS** and **GROVE PARK**, or for newer, brick construction, settle into the **MONT RICHER** subdivision.

**Fountain City Elementary**

2910 Montbelle Dr.  
865.689.1445  
[fountaincityes.knoxschools.org](http://fountaincityes.knoxschools.org)

**Sterchi Elementary**

900 Oaklet Dr.  
865.689.1470  
[sterchies.knoxschools.org](http://sterchies.knoxschools.org)

**Gresham Middle School**

500 Gresham Rd.  
865.689.1430  
[greshamms.knoxschools.org](http://greshamms.knoxschools.org)

**Central High School**

5321 Jacksboro Pike  
865.689.1400  
[centralhs.knoxschools.org](http://centralhs.knoxschools.org)

**Garden Montessori School**

3225 Garden Drive  
865.688.6776  
[www.gardenmontessori.org](http://www.gardenmontessori.org)

**St. Joseph Elementary**

1810 Howard Drive  
865.689.3424  
[www.edline.net](http://www.edline.net)

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