



Wesley Neighbors Community Association

April 2005

Keeping your neighborhood great!

Volume 5, Issue 4

City Implements Traffic Process 10-Steps for All Neighborhoods

The City of Knoxville is implementing a 10-step traffic-calming process for neighborhoods seeking to reduce the number of speeding motorists.

The process is designed to ensure strong support in the neighborhood and equitably allocate the city's resources to neighborhoods that need and want traffic calming.

"Traffic calming is a hot topic in our city's neighborhoods," Mayor Bill Haslam said in an official letter to Wesley Neighbors. "It is the subject of nine months of study by a Residential Neighborhood Traffic Safety Committee comprised of City Council members, city staff, and community volunteers."

Bill Stack and Tom Arnhart represented Wesley Neighbors among the numerous citizen observers of this traffic committee last year.

Under the first few steps, neighborhoods such as Wesley must formally request traffic calming from the City Engineering Department, which

will then meet with the neighborhood to discuss the process. These steps will be done at our April 4 meeting when Traffic Engineer Bill Cole will brief us and we will decide whether to move forward.

For neighborhoods that decide to pursue traffic calming, traffic engineers will study flows in the neighborhood and recommend traffic-calming plans if indicated. Neighborhoods will then vote on the engineering department's plan. A "super" majority of approximately two-thirds is required for moving to the next steps.

Wesley Neighbors voted at our March 7 meeting to form a traffic committee to evaluate this process. All neighbors who want safer streets should join this committee and participate in this process. Volunteers will be needed for analyzing plans, discussing solutions, spreading the word, getting petition signatures, and so forth.

The City's 10-step process is available on the Wesley Neighbors web site www.korrrnet.org/wesley.

Great American Cleanup 5th Annual Cleanup April 16

Please join your Wesley Neighbors as we participate in the 5th annual Great American Cleanup sponsored by Keep Knoxville Beautiful.

Three teams will be formed to pick up litter in our neighborhood, at the West Knoxville Library, and around the West Hills Elementary school.

We will meet Saturday, April 16, rain or shine, at 9 a.m. at the corner of Wesley Road and Stockton Drive.

We'll form the three teams and fan out to cover the areas.

It should take about an hour. Because of everyone's regular attention to litter in our neighborhood, the amount we encounter each year is less.

Thanks go to everyone for helping keep our neighborhood clean and neat!

Please contact Harry Harper at 584-5288 before April 9 to confirm your participation in this important event. We need to know the number of participants to be sure we are provided enough gloves and vests from Keep Knoxville Beautiful.

— Submitted by Harry Harper



Flower beds are being expanded and new flower beds have been made at Wesley Road and Kingston Pike as part of Wesley Neighbors' Entrance Beautification. Two dogwood trees and three crepe myrtles were planted for us by the City of Knoxville. More photos are on our web site. Photos by Jack Creed

Restrooms, Better Tennis Courts Community Support Sought

Wesley Neighbors' support is being sought for a proposed half-million dollar renovation of the tennis courts at West Hills Park.

The December 2004 proposal by the Greater Knoxville Tennis Association to the City of Knoxville includes renovations of the existing tennis courts and a new tennis pro shop with public restrooms. The proposal estimates costs ranging from \$475,000 to \$550,000.

The GKTA, the YMCA, and the West Hills Community Association believe funds can

be raised through "grants, possibly naming rights, corporate donors and possibly a donors wall or brick pavers," says Sue Lembersky of WHCA. They are looking for the City's support needed for getting the grants.

Expressions of strong community support will be needed, Sue says. She will brief us on the proposal and ask for petition signatures and other support at our April 4 meeting.

"We are not looking for money from Wesley Neighbors or any residents of West Hills," she said.

YOUR NEXT NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT

The Program:

Knoxville Engineering
Traffic-Calming
Process

Other Business

- Park Rest Rooms
- Visioning Process
- Open Mike

Monday April 4, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
West Knoxville Library

Street Cleaning

Keeping a Beautiful Neighborhood

In response to Wesley Neighbors' request, the City of Knoxville Public Service Department sent a street-sweeping truck to sweep streets in our neighborhood during the week of March 7.

Two members raised the issue of clutter on our streets during our Open Mike segment March 7, and one brought a photo.

The City had swept the streets after the repaving project last year, but a lot of clutter had accumulated since then.

The Tennessee Department of Transportation cleaned Dorchester Drive and Wesley Road in the interstate area last month soon after we requested that cleanup.

We thank Knoxville Public Service Director Bob Whetsel and TDOT project manager John Hunter for

their prompt responses to our requests and their support of our neighborhood's needs.

Neighbors can help keep our streets clean by picking up litter, sticks, leaves and such from the roadsides at their properties. We also ask neighbors on sidewalk streets to keep storm-drain areas clear to prevent flooding.

Self-Protection From Crime

Neighborhood Watch

Although our Knoxville Police Department is among the nation's best and our West Division is top notch, police can do only so much to protect us citizens. All citizens must take reasonable precautions to protect themselves.

KPD Officer Tim Belcher reported at our March 7 meeting that purses had been sto-

len from cars parked in the parking lot in the West Hills Park. Victims said they left their cars unlocked because they felt safe in this park.

Our lovely West Hills Park is also a suburban park with many visitors from all over Knoxville, Knox County and beyond. Like any popular park, it is also a choice target for criminals who prey on unsuspecting citizens.

Officer Belcher urges citizens using the park to keep their cars locked and women to lock their purses in the trunk or use waist packs to carry their valuables.

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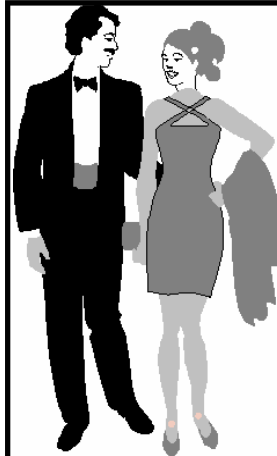


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Wesley Neighbors Community Association
Newsletter April 2005

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West Hills Cleaners

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Major Decision Awaits Us Message From Your President



Whether Wesley Neighbors pursues traffic calming under the City's new 10-step process depends on members of this community.

Members at our March 7 meeting voted unanimously to form a traffic committee that would study the City's new process and decide whether we should move forward. The plan is similar to the plan used two years ago, but the steps are more clearly defined, and an emphasis on equity among the city's neighborhoods is apparent.

Our Wesley neighborhood has been seeking traffic relief since at least 1989 when several of our neighbors formed the West Hills Community Association's traffic committee. Many attempts have been made since then, with the six all-way stop signs being the best result attained so far.

Last year's City Council Traffic Committee and this year's new traffic-claming process are major movements forward for safety in Knoxville's neighborhoods.

Now it's up to us residents to move forward or forget it. Let's see what our neighbors decide at our April 4th meeting.

— Bill Stack

Great Toys Can Be Dangerous Child Safety

Bicycles are more than toys for children, says the National Safe Kids Campaign. They are also a source of "more child injuries than any source other than the automobile."

In 2001, 134 children ages 14 and under died in bicycle-related crashes. In 2002, nearly 288,900 children were treated in hospital emergency rooms for bicycle-related injuries. Nearly half these injuries were "traumatic brain injury."

The Safe Kids Campaign says bicycle helmets can reduce injury risk by 85 percent. Riders who don't wear helmets are 14 times more likely to be injured. Unfortunately, helmet use among child bicyclists ranges from only 15 to 25 percent.

We see a lot of adult bicycle riders in the neighborhood wearing helmets, but few children doing so.

Collisions with motor vehicles are another common factor, and children are more likely to be injured on neighborhood streets near their homes.

With our neighborhood's large volume of traffic and high frequency of speeding, bicycle helmets make a lot of sense.

For more information about bicycle safety for kids, consult Safe Kids of Knoxville at www.safekids-knoxarea.org or 215-5175.

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Spaghetti Squash Boats

Among Steve Ellis' Favorites



Neighbors' Recipes

- 1 medium spaghetti squash
- 1/4 lb. ground beef
- 1/2 c. onion, chopped
- 1/2 c. green pepper, chopped
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1/2 t. dried basil
- 1/2 t. dried oregano
- 1/4 t. salt
- 1/8 t. pepper
- 14 1/2 oz. can diced tomatoes, drained
- 1/3 c. shredded mozzarella cheese

Generously shared
by Brenda Ellis

Pierce 4 holes in squash. Microwave on high for 6 minutes. Cut squash in half lengthwise. Scoop out seeds. Cover squash with vented plastic wrap. Microwave on high 11 minutes till done. Remove strands with a fork. Set shells and squash aside. In a skillet over medium heat, cook beef, onion and green pepper until meat is browned and vegetables are tender; drain. Add garlic, basil, oregano, salt and pepper; cook and stir for 2 minutes. Add tomatoes; cook and stir for 2 minutes. Add squash; mix well. Cook uncovered, until liquid has evaporated, about 10 minutes. Fill shells; place in shallow baking dish. Bake, uncovered, at 350 deg. for 15 min. Sprinkle with cheese; return to oven for 5 min. or until cheese is melted. Makes six servings. — Submitted by Brenda Ellis, who says this is one of Steve's favorites.

Share your recipe with us by phoning Joyce Harper at 584-5288 or dropping it in her newspaper box at 510 Rockingham Drive.

Wesley Neighbors

Community Association

Bill Stack, President
916 Wesley Road
Knoxville, TN 37909-2663



Your Officers



PRESIDENT
Bill Stack
916 Wesley Road
Knoxville, TN 37909
558-6280
wesley@kornet.org



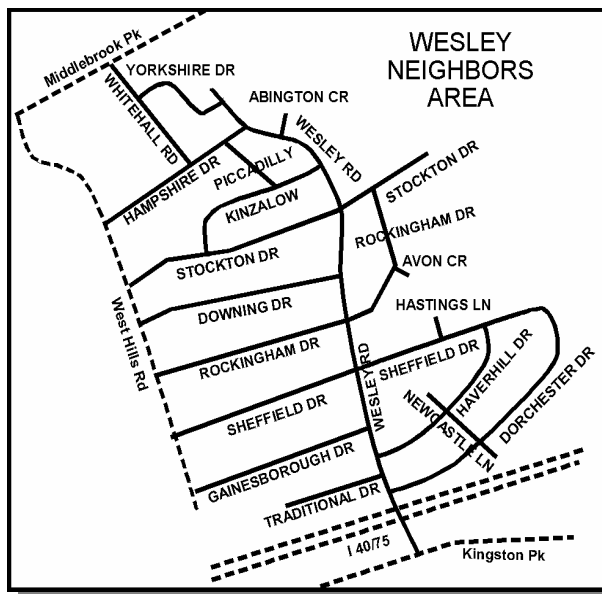
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Knoxville, TN 37909
584-3082



TREASURER
Sandy Robinson
7106 Sheffield Drive
Knoxville, TN 37909
588-2334



SECRETARY
Jenny Roberts
7118 Sheffield Drive
Knoxville, TN 37909
450-5487



Your Neighborhood Teams

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION
Steve Ellis, 584-3082.

ANTI-LITTER
Harry Harper, 584-5288
Katherine Kinnard, 212-3388

FUND RAISING
Linda Stack, 558-6280

Dues, Contributions

Annual dues are \$10. Additional contributions are always welcomed. Our fiscal year starts May 1 and ends April 30.

Please write your checks to "Wesley Neighbors Community Association," write "dues" in the memo line, and mail to Bill Stack, President, 916 Wesley Road, 37909.

CLASSIFIEDS

YARD WORK

I'm a Wesley Neighbor and student at Catholic High School. I do miscellaneous yard work for many Wesley area neighbors, and I have good references. Paul Thames, 7038, Stockton Drive, 558-1440.



STYLISH T SHIRTS. Show your pride in your neighborhood and help your association raise needed funds. Sky blue with black Wesley logo, S, M, L, XL, XXL. Made by Tribe One, a ministry helping inner-city youth. \$10 each. Contact Bill Stack, 558-6280 or wesley@kornet.org.

Welcome New Neighbors

If you know of new neighbors, please tell us so we can officially welcome them to our neighborhood. Bill Stack, 558-6280, wesley@kornet.org.

Our Web Site

www.kornet.org/wesley