



Wesley Neighbors Community Association

A nonprofit corporation chartered in 2001 under the laws of the State of Tennessee

February 2006

Keeping your neighborhood great!

Volume 6, Issue 2

Barking-Dog Problem Needs Positive Solution

With more dogs than ever in the area, the problem of continually barking dogs has spread throughout our once peaceful neighborhood.

Barking dogs can be heard any night from just about anywhere in the neighborhood.

Neighbors living close to offending dogs suffer tremendous stress that builds into frustration and finally resentment.

Unfortunately, an owner of two Wesley neighborhood dogs known to bark, snarl, and growl at neighbors was fined in December by the Knoxville Municipal Court at the request of aggrieved neighbors.

The neighbors said they had tried to work with the dog owner without satisfaction. Because neighbors suing neighbors is not good for them or their communities, all activities that can lead to legal actions should be avoided for civility and economics.

Most dog owners want to be good neighbors and are not

aware of the disturbance their dogs cause, the social and legal consequences, or effective solutions to the problem.

That is why we mail letters to owners of barking dogs explaining the problem and passing along expert advice on how to control barking dogs. Neighbors are welcome to ask

us to mail our standard barking-dog letters to specific households.

Because the problem is growing in the neighborhood, we are sharing that advice with all dog owners via this newsletter.

The Knox County Human Society says the most common causes of continually barking dogs are loneliness and boredom. Being social animals, dogs want to be with their families and not left alone without companionship. More social interactions with

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New Traffic Committee Forms To seek neighborhood safety

A new committee to seek speeding controls for our neighborhood has been formed by Jack Creed, Mike Hampton, John Lamson, and Brian Huskey.

At a January 12 meeting, the committee discussed ways to raise approximately \$1,500 required to finance the traffic study mandated by the City of Knoxville to prove that speed control is needed in the Wesley Neighbors community.

The fee schedule associated with the City's 10-step process was reviewed so that the committee members could see the calculation behind the \$1,500 cost estimate.

Among ideas discussed by the committee were soliciting donations from local companies that do business in the neighborhood, applying for government grants, holding a neighborhood yard sale, selling T shirts and bumper stickers, and requesting cash donations from neighborhood residents.

A full committee report will be provided at our February 6 monthly meeting.

To participate on this important committee or donate cash to the effort, please call Jack Creed at 588-9454.

Overpass Lighting Needed For pedestrian and vehicle safety

Wesley Neighbors asked the State of Tennessee several times last summer and fall to energize the lights it installed under the interstate overpass at Wesley Road in July.

The short tunnel created by the interstate widening project is very dark day and night. Drivers whose eyes are adjusted for bright sun see blackness when they enter that "tunnel." Miscreants can hide under the overpass and attack walkers passing by in the darkness.

TDOT officials have told us repeatedly that completing the highway is their top priority.

We were told last fall by TDOT officials, our local legislative delegation, and our City Council representative that TDOT would energize the lights "in the next few weeks."

Because TDOT has not illuminated these lights needed for public safety, we ask neighbors to call the Governor's office at 615-741-2001 or send an e-mail to Governor Bredesen at: phil.bredesen@state.tn.us.

YOUR NEXT NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT

Monthly Meeting

**Monday February 6, 2006
West Knoxville Public Library
6:30 p.m.**



Mike and Lisa Carroll graciously opened their Sheffield Drive home to neighbors and friends for a splendid Christmas party. Everyone enjoyed delicious treats and tasty hot apple cider. The Carrolls are generous and loyal supporters of Wesley Neighbors.

Graffiti Spoils Neighborhood & City Keeping Our Neighborhood Beautiful

Graffiti painted on the new noise wall constructed by the State of Tennessee to reduce interstate highway noise in the immediate area spoils the entire neighborhood and the city overall.

TDOT used to cover up graffiti on its property, but it has become lax in this regard. The Knoxville Police Department has a team of volunteers who paint over graffiti on public property, but they need donations of paint and equipment. Wesley Neighbors has agreed to provide KPD with paint and equipment if KPD will provide the labor to clean graffiti in our neighborhood.

Promptly painting over graffiti discourages future attacks. Any citizen is welcome to paint over graffiti in the neighborhood. Please photograph the graffiti first for police records.

Neighbors Left in Lurch on Leaves

Neighbors with sidewalks have been considerably piling their leaves behind the sidewalk to allow safe pedestrian passage and avoid clogging storm gutters and drains. But the City of Knoxville's leaf-vacuum trucks cannot reach leaves piled too far from the street.

Officials recommend piling leaves closer to the street and allowing some sidewalk surface for pedestrians. Long narrow piles will be better than short wide piles in this regard.

If your leaves have not been picked up, please call the City of Knoxville Public Services Department at 215-2060.

Barking Needs Solution Neighborhood Watch

Continued from page 1

dogs are advised, such as petting and playing with them, walking them around the neighborhood, giving them toys to play with, and giving them other dogs for playmates.

Dogs that snarl and growl at next-door neighbors should be taught that neighbors are friends and that the dogs' territories do not need guarding against them.

All domestic dogs should be taught proper social behaviors around humans. Aggressive dogs are prohibited by Knoxville ordinances.

Dog owners are fully responsible for physical and emotional injuries their dogs cause while violating the City ordinances.

Those who fail to comply with the law can be taken to court by the Police Department or by their neighbors. The Knoxville Police Department urges aggrieved neighbors to report such problems to Animal Control at 215-7457 or 215-7277 after hours.

Legal actions must be taken by the aggrieved neighbors and should follow sincere but unsuccessful efforts to solve the problem.

Community associations cannot take legal actions against owners of barking dogs. Courts will not accept complaints from them.

All neighbors can obtain more information from Animal Control at 215-7457 or the Knox County Human Society at 215-6599 or www.knoxpets.org.



Buy flowers to help beautify your Wesley Neighborhood. Call Anna Beth Meccia at 909-9456 today!

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Get Our E-Mail Updates

Neighbors on our e-mail network receive news and information promptly and before everyone else. Join our network to keep up with the latest. Your e-mail privacy is protected — no one else will see or receive your address unless you authorize it. Send your sign-up request to Bill Stack wesley@discoveret.org.



Businesses 450 Prospects Every Month

by advertising in Wesley Neighbors Community Association's monthly newsletter
Contact Bill Stack
558-6280
wesley@discoveret.org



Take the Bus

The Kingston Pike KAT Bus goes to West Town, Deane Hill, Downtown West, Peters Road, Bearden, UT, and Downtown. Try it. You'll like it.
Schedules at 637-3000 or www.ci.knoxville.tn.us/kat/



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- Lo-Carb Products
- Holistic Medicine
- Cookbooks
- Gifts

"Quality education, service and products for people seeking a healthy lifestyle."

Owned and operated by Ann Yates, a Wesley Neighbor

6600 Kingston Pike (on Bearden Hill)
584-4714, www.naturespantryonline.com

Neighborliness Requires Consideration and Civility

Message From Your President



It's sad and unfortunate that a barking-dog problem in our neighborhood required legal action for its solution.

Neighbors suing neighbors is not good for communities, but it can be necessary as a last resort when all other resolution efforts fail.

Your Wesley Neighbors Community Association has tried hard during its five years of existence to encourage neighborliness and resolve problems so they do not grow to this level. In this case, Wesley Neighbors had mailed the offending neighbor two letters in addition to publishing numerous newsletter articles about continually barking dogs. Neighbors had tried working with the offending dogs owner, and the Knoxville Police Department has a list of barking-dog calls to this owner over several years.

Because living peacefully in suburban neighborhoods requires civility, Wesley Neighbors urges all neighbors to consider the effects of their behaviors on their neighbors. This extends beyond barking dogs to loud music and parties, vehicles blocking driveways, basic property maintenance, and so forth.

Property values in this neighborhood are higher than similar properties in other West Knoxville neighborhoods because our residents have sustained our neighborhood as a marvelous place to live. Let's everyone do their best to keep it that way.

— Bill Stack

Teach Children How to Cross Streets

Child Safety

At any shopping center, you'll see pedestrians walking straight into and through vehicle-traffic lanes to get to or from the stores without looking to be sure the way is clear. Didn't their parents teach them to look both ways before crossing?

Thousands of pedestrians die each year and tens of thousands are injured by vehicular traffic according to the National Transportation Safety Administration. Almost one-fourth of the traffic fatalities among children ages 5-9 years were sustained by pedestrians.

Children are at increased risk for pedestrian injuries because of their smaller size, inability to judge distances and speeds, youthful ignorance, and inadequate training. Parents can overestimate children's abilities to cross streets. Drivers and child pedestrians each assume incorrectly that the other will yield the right-of-way.

Children should always be taught to stop and look both ways before crossing any street or traffic lane. Verbal explanations and physical demonstrations are the best teaching methods:

- Stop at the curb.
- Look LEFT-RIGHT-LEFT for traffic in all directions.
- Cross when it is clear.
- Keep looking for cars as you cross.
- Praise the child for copying your safe actions or words.
- Exemplify what you teach at all times.

For more information on child safety, contact Safe Kids of Knoxville at 215-5175 or www.safekids-knoxarea.org, and the Knoxville Police Department Safety Education Unit at 215-8633.



Join the West Side Family YMCA today. We offer activities for the whole family! Check out the latest in group exercise — RAMPING!

"Family Friendly for Life"

400 N. Winston Road

Knoxville, TN 37909

690-9622

www.ymcaknoxville.org



The mission of the YMCA is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

Membership Includes

- **Citywide Membership**
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- **Child Watch**
- **Gymnasium**
- **Group Exercise**
- **Spinning**
- **Full Fitness Center**
- **No Contracts**



Chocolate Mocha Trifle

An elegant treat!



Neighbors' Recipes

1 package (19.8 ounces) brownie mix
 4 teaspoons instant coffee granules
 1-3/4 cup cold milk
 2 packages (3.3 ounces each) white chocolate instant pudding mix
 1 container (12 ounces) frozen non-dairy whipped topping, thawed
 Crushed chocolate-covered toffee bars or fresh sliced strawberries (optional)

Submitted by Lisa Carroll

1. Bake brownies according to package directions; cool.
2. Cut into bite-sized squares.
3. Combine coffee granules and milk; stir well until coffee is dissolved.
4. Stir pudding mix and milk mixture 4 minutes or until thickened. Fold in whipped topping; chill.
5. Layer in a glass bowl in following order: brownies, pudding mix, and toffee or strawberries, if desired; repeat layers.

Yields about 16 servings

Share your recipe with us by phoning Brenda Ellis at 584-3082 or dropping it in her newspaper box at 6913 Sheffield 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@discoveret.org



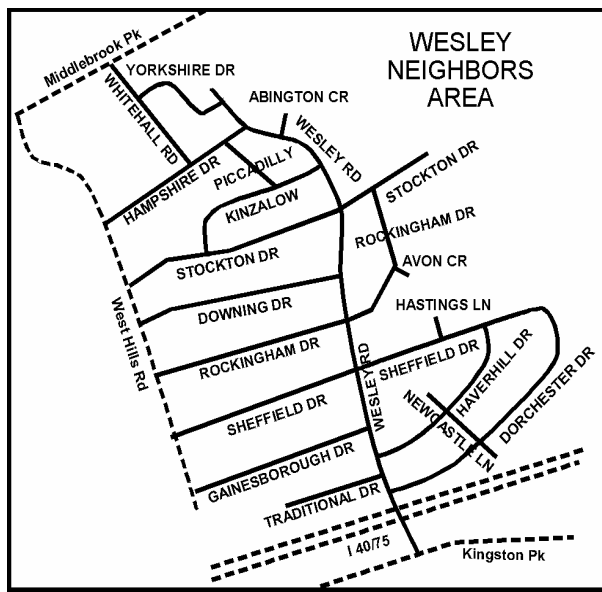
VICE PRESIDENT
 Steve Ellis
 6913 Sheffield Drive
 Knoxville, TN 37909
 584-3082



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



SECRETARY
 Anna Beth Meccia
 406 Wesley Rd
 Knoxville, TN 37909
 909-9456



Your Neighbor Teams Dues, Contributions

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION
 Steve Ellis, 584-3082.

ANTI-LITTER
 John Heins, 389-9700
 Jim Boehms, 588-8448

BEAUTICATION
 Sandy Robinson, 588-2334

FLOWER SALE
 Anna Beth Meccia, 909-9456

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

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

BABYSITTERS NEEDED.
 Parents request neighborhood teens for babysitting. Contact Wesley Neighbors for details: wesley@discoveret.org, 558-6280.



LOOK LIKE SOMEBODY IMPORTANT.
 Show your pride in your neighborhood and help your association raise needed

funds. Sky blue with black Wesley logo, S, M, L, XI, XXL. Made by Tribe One, a ministry helping inner-city youth. \$10 each. Contact Bill Stack, 558-6280 or

ADVERTISE. Businesses can reach target markets and support a fine local community by advertising in our monthly newsletters. Visit our website for details: www.discoveret.net/wesley

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

Our Web Site

www.discoveret.org/wesley