

West Hills Neighbors

May/June 2025 Edition

West Hills Community Association *Neighbors Helping Neighbors*

You Make All the Difference

West Hills is a great neighborhood for a lot of reasons, but the main one is the people who live here and their involvement with the community. Here are a few examples of how you make a difference.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt followed by the second annual WHCA/Dogwood Arts Festival Spring Dogwood Celebration happened on April 19. Special thanks to **Ginger Milligan, Christine Martens, and Michael Moore** and all the other volunteers for their dedication and hard work to make both events huge successes!

Thanks to **John Heins** for championing WHCA's financial gift to our WHES Wolfpack Foundation.

Thanks to **Anne Crais and her volunteers** for organizing the 3rd annual Pickle Ball Tournament and their persistence through inclement weather to have the tournament.

Next a big thank you goes to everyone in West Hills who contacted City Council regarding removal of the duplex location standard.

Last Tuesday City Council voted at its second hearing of the One Year Plan with the amendment to remove the duplex location standard in Special Use zoning applications in RN-1 and RN-2 zoned properties like West Hills..

That's a mouthful, so here's a try at a simple explanation.

First, by law and prescribed in our city charter, City Council must approve the annual land use plan called for the City called the One Year Plan (OYP).

If the Council so chooses, it may add an amendment or multiple amendments to the OYP.

In **January** Planning Commissioners asked Planning staff to review one item in all the zoning ordinances: the duplex location standard requirement in Special Use zoning in RN-1 and RN-2 neighborhoods like West Hills.

In **February** staff responded that the duplex location standard was not necessary. In **March** PC voted to remove the standard, **April 1** City Council voted 8-1 to repeal the standard (BTW, it's for both new construction and conversion of existing single-family homes).

The lone vote to deny removing the standard was at-large member **Lynne Fugate**.

Our community association reached out to the West Hills neighborhood to inform and encourage comments be sent to council members.

And you did and so did others across the city.

On **April 29** City Council held the second hearing. The debate was lively and it appeared council members were more engaged than at the first hearing.

The result was not the victory we had sought, but was positive in the sense that three additional votes to deny the duplex location repeal were picked-up resulting in a 4-4 tie (one council member was absent). The mayor broke the tie with her vote to approve the OYP and remove the duplex location standard.

Your voice and emails mattered last week and affected the final vote. You were mentioned more than once as "one neighborhood" was heard from frequently.

We may not win every time, but we sure will try. **Thank you, WH neighbors!**

Lee Hume, WHCA President 2025-2026



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WEST HILLS
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

COMMUNITY MEETING

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

DIRECTOR OF KNOXVILLE
PARKS & RECREATION

SHERYL ELY
THE 10-YEAR PARKS'
MASTER PLAN

MONDAY MAY

19/7 PM

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
VANOSDALE ROAD



WEST HILLS
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

POTLUCK

PICNIC

MONDAY JUNE

16/5:30 PM

WEST HILLS PARK GAZEBO
WINSTON ROAD ENTRANCE

Last Day of School

If anyone is ready for the summer, it is the kids in the neighborhood. Look for the mass exodus on Thursday, May 22, 2025 around lunchtime because it is a half day. Be extra safe on the roads, as well.

Free Workout in West Hills

Participate in free health classes on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. at West Hills Park at the gazebo in front of the tennis courts, 410 N. Winston Rd. These classes will continue indefinitely as long as the weather permits.

Sweat for Success was started by **Izzy Villegas** to promote health and wellness in Tennessee by providing free fitness classes in the park as well as showcasing other groups and organizations who also encourage a healthy and active lifestyle. The class instructor, Izzy, says, "Fitness doesn't have to be costly or intimidating. It can be accessible regardless of your fitness level, background, or financial situation." Izzy aims to create a space where people feel connected, strong, and empowered.

These classes are open to all fitness levels, and restrooms are available.

For more information about the classes, please contact **Izzy Villegas** at izzyvillegas11@yahoo.com.

3rd Annual Dogwood Pickleball Tournament Rain-Delayed

Saturday, May 24, 9 A.M.

With the first two weekends seeing rain outs, the Healthy West Hills pickleball committee has set another rain date with the City for Saturday, May 24, 2025 at AM at the West Hills pickleball courts. With three divisions and some teams determining whether they are available to play, a wait list will be available for any teams interested in playing. Register for \$25 a team at <https://bit.ly/44mn6c0> for either the Recreation (13+ years old), Intermediate (16+), or Advanced (16+) Divisions.

For more information about the classes, please contact **Anne Crais** at annecrais@gmail.com.

Jan-Dec 2025 Membership Underway

Our annual membership drive includes volunteers visiting neighbors who have not yet become 2025 members.

Feel free to ask questions about how your \$25 membership helps the community with hosting events, producing newsletters, and informing the neighborhood about City Hall issues that affect us all.

If you are a paid member, your address will be skipped. You can always reach us at whca@westhillsknoxville.org to ask if you have already paid for 2025 or anything else.

Sheffield Drive Road Pillows

All the requirements for the speed pillows on the section of Sheffield Drive between Portsmouth and West Hills Road have been met. The project has been funded and approved by City Council. The contractor has marked the speed pillows locations with paint. Installation of these traffic calming devices is expected between now and the fall.



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Parks and Recreation Is Seeking Feedback on Master Plan

The Parks and Recreation Department's Master Plan is a 10-month community planning process, designed to identify parks and recreation needs in the city, anticipate future demand, and build a shared vision for improvements to the parks and recreation system.

There are two more public meetings:

Wednesday, May 14, from 6-7:30 PM at Lakeshore Park, 5930 Lyons View Pike

Tuesday, May 20, from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Central Baptist Church Fountain City Family Life Center (enter off Lynnwood Dr.), 5364 N Broadway St

The plan is designed to:

Identify parks and recreation needs in the city
Anticipate future demand

Build a shared vision for improvements to the parks and recreation system

Knoxville is experiencing population growth, with an estimated increase of close to 10,000 residents in the last five years.

This growth requires understanding how all residents, both new and old, can be equitably served by the parks and recreation system,

particularly as the city continues to grow.

Parks and Recreation would love to hear your thoughts on improving Knoxville's parks and recreation programs. Community feedback is a primary goal of the plan, and this feedback will ensure that the plan's recommendations are citizen-driven.

You can share input in-person, at a public meeting, or a community event, or even on the Knoxville Parks Plan website. Thanks in advance for your input. Happy trails!

Sign-Up for WHCA Listserv

Get the latest updates about events and developments impacting our community and your life in West Hills.

The **WHCA listserv** fills the gap between newsletter editions. It is your resource for timely messages and important notices impacting your life in West Hills. Topics range from rezoning to crime; announcements of Special Called community meetings; and other issues that may impact West Hills neighbors.

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Farm-Fresh Produce for West Hills Residents

Sign up to order a Farm Share (CSA) subscription delivered weekly to the West Hills community.

It features:

- 22 weeks of a fully customizable, certified organic, seasonal vegetables and select fruits farm share
- Ability to put your weekly share on vacation hold
- Three sizes offered to meet your needs
- Delivered to the West Hills neighborhood (Church of the Nazarene) every Tuesday afternoon beginning in mid-May




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