

THE PARK BENCH

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HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We'd like to wish all of you a Happy New Year! We had a very busy and productive year in 2008 and plan to have another productive year this year. The previous Board has a lot of ideas to *build on* from last year. It looks like the city is finally moving forward with installing street lights. We are looking to get more No Parking signs installed on the narrow streets and rumble strips to deter the speeding on Evergreen and Olive Circle. **We asked for more police patrol on those streets as well to deter illegal parking, speeding, and failure to yield at stop signs.** We are working with Councilman Duane Dominy and Beautification Commissioner Bill Covington on several projects as well. So far the Board has taken 23 phone calls regarding neighborhood issues; sent out 5 Violation Letters; been successful with collecting 49% of the Homeowner Assessments; and placed 33 Liens on homes which have, despite our efforts to get letters translated in 3 languages, the homeowners refused to pay their dues from 2007 and 2008. Unfortunately many homeowners are late this year and we will have to place more Liens in April.

Bills were sent out in December. Dues are due every year in January. **TO AVOID A LIEN BEING PLACED ON YOUR HOME**, please pay your dues immediately. Dues are \$60 per year (\$5 per month). Please refer to the Bylaws. Checks or Money Order can be mailed to: 2479 Murfreesbro #355, Nashville TN 372



COME OUT TO VOTE ON A NEW RHOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Your community needs you. Are you concerned about our neighborhood? Do you want to protect the investment in your home? Would you like to become more involved in your community? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, we'd like to invite you to the next Association Meeting. Although we had one of the largest turnouts we've ever had at an Association Meeting, there were not quite enough homeowners present to elect a new Board at the meeting in January.

However, we were able to have an open discussion regarding neighborhood concerns, discuss upcoming improvements, speak with Councilman Duane

Dominy about installing more No Parking signs, and conduct a very productive meeting.

We have rescheduled another meeting to **elect the 2009 Board of Directors for Thursday, March 26, 2009**, at 7:00pm at the Metro Police Department (South Precinct), 5101 Harding Place, Nashville, TN 37213. Also, on the Agenda are:

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator-Tresa Williams, Councilman-Duane Dominy, Beautification Commissioner-Bill Covington, and Community Coordinator- Suzanne Stephens.

If you would like to serve on the Board or help in any way, please contact the RPHOA Secretary at www.ransompark.com.

THE BOARD HAS GONE HIGH-TECH

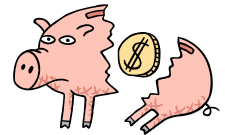
To save time and be more efficient, the Board has decided to go High-Tech. If you are trying to reach the Board for any reason, please go to www.ransompark.com where you can contact us via email. All the Board members are volunteers and have full-time jobs. The best way to reach us is by email.

NEIGHBORHOOD VIOLATIONS AND FINES

We appreciate all your phone calls regarding this issue. Please understand that we are doing all that we can, inside the law, to get all homeowners to respect our investments in this community. But also remember that some who live in our neighborhood are renting and don't seem to care about the well-being of this neighborhood. All who are on the Board live in this community too and are just as frustrated (if not more) with those who continue to make our neighborhood look bad. They are affecting all our investments and cause the Board (who is working voluntarily) to work harder than necessary.

We sent out 5 violation letters this past quarter. The following are the only violations cited this past month:

- **PARKING IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION OF TRAFFIC**
- **PARKING ON THE NO PARKING SIDE OF EVERGREEN RIDGE**
- **PARKING ON THE LAWN**
Please be considerate of your neighbors and keep



the front AND BACK of your homes presentable; do not bring shopping carts in our neighborhood and leave them; do not allow your dogs to use the bathroom on other homeowner's lawns and not clean it up; do not walk through other homeowner's yards; do not park on the *No Parking side* of any street; do not park in the opposite direction on any street; use your garages for parking whenever possible; do not park on both sides of any street. Emergency vehicles can not get through; do not park in front of mailboxes during the day; do not park inoperable vehicles on the street.

Please do not take it *personal* if you receive a Violation Letter from us. Our intention is ONLY to protect all our investments and make it much easier to sell our homes should any of us decide to *move on*.

Please see the RPHOA Declaration and Bylaws, and Metro Codes.

SEEING AN IMPROVEMENT WITH THE PROBLEM OF LITTER AND EXCESSIVE PARTIES ON GRAFTON



It is not our intention to single one street out. However, unfortunately, this has been a problem spot for many year. Many of us have seen the litter leading from Ransom Park to Grafton Street and asked the children who live in that area to stop littering in our subdivision. Many of us have picked up the trash in that area. However, since our last newsletter was mailed out, we have seen an improvement in this area. We have witnessed residents from that street cleaning up the street and we thank you for that. We have asked the police to also help us with the excessive parties and the parking on both sides of the street in that cul-de-sac. Please continue to call the police for noise disturbances and if you can get a specific address of those who consistently disturb neighbors with no regard, please email the RPHOA Board Secretary to give us their address. (www.ransompark.com)

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

While it has been a pleasure to serve you this past year, I have decided to step down as President of the RPHOA. We are also losing 3 other Board Members who have had to reprioritise their personal responsibilities. Thank you for your involvement and thank you to those Board Members who served last year. I'd like to encourage you to attend the Annual Association meeting to elect a new Board of Directors. It is the Board's mission to encourage all of us to keep high basic standards so that Ransom Park remains a safe and attractive place to live. We hope that you will become more involved in your community and help us all protect our investments.



RPHOA FINANCIAL NEWS

In 2008

72% of Homeowners paid dues. \$9,743.11 Collected. Projected expenses \$7701.61. Total expenses last year 7444.30

So far in 2009

49% of Homeowners have paid dues on time this year. \$6636.99 Collected. \$656.90 Expenses so far.

Thank you to all those who are doing their part and contributing to Ransom Park's *bare minimum expenses*. The Board processed 33 Liens on homes of homeowners who have not paid dues in over 2 years (Totalling \$7868.49 with interest and associated fees). And in April will be processing more Liens for those who have not paid this year.

Please understand that when you bought your home you joined the Association. *Membership* in RPHOA is not optional. This is a legal obligation that you entered into when you purchased your home. When we get all homeowners to pay their dues we can begin making many improvements to the neighbourhood that could potentially raise the value of our homes.

We had a meeting with Beautification Commissioner Bill Covington and he gave us several ideas. We'd also like to hear your suggestions on ways to improve our subdivision. Please email the Secretary with those ideas by going to our website at www.ransompark.com.



News from "Roxanne O"....

Did you know that Metro Nashville *pays* for garbage disposal whereas Metro Nashville *gets paid* for recycling? That's right. And this in turn affects taxpayers and homeowners. The more we recycle, the less it costs our local government and this translates into keeping taxes lower. And it's such an easy thing to do!

Recycle-The Basics

Recyclable materials accepted for monthly pick-up include: (be sure all containers are empty)

ALL PAPER: including magazines, junk mail, newspaper, phone books, paperback books, construction paper, and brown paper bags.

ALL BOXES: milk or juice cartons, cardboard boxes, clean food boxes. All boxes should be broken down.

ALL PLASTIC CONTAINERS #1-7: including drink bottles, detergent & cleaner bottles, yogurt/cottage cheese/butter "tubs".

ALL METAL & ALUMINUM CANS: food and drink cans.

DO NOT RECYCLE: plastic bags, black plastic trays, clamshells (fast food take out), or Styrofoam. **Plastic grocery bags can be recycled at most grocery stores.** Kroger, Publix, Wal-Mart and

Whole Foods have containers by the entrance for customers to place their used plastic bags.

You can put all accepted items in your cart together - you do not have to separate any materials. Rinse cans before putting them in your cart, as some materials may sit in your cart for a month. You may want to break down cardboard boxes, but you do not have to remove any staples from paper or plastic windows from envelopes.

Glass bottles should be taken to one of the drop-off or convenience centers operated by the Division of Waste Management.

McGavock High School and Elysian Fields Kroger (on Nolensville Rd) are 2 convenience centers that are open 24 hours. Both accept newspaper, mixed paper, paper board, cardboard, aluminum, tin, glass containers, plastic bottles & containers.

Cart Pick-up Schedule

Ransom Park's scheduled recyclable pick-up day is the second Friday of each month.

Holidays

Recycling is not collected on New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving Day or Christmas Day. Any collection day that falls on one of these holidays will be picked up on Saturday of that week.

Cart Placement

Curbside, at least three feet from any stationary object such as a car, mailbox, utility pole, etc. We also recommend that carts be placed 3 ft apart from one another so the trash collector has an easier time handling the carts.

Cart Size and Overflow

If you have more material than will fit into your cart, please take those items to a local drop-off site or Metro Convenience Center. ***You can also order a second cart for free by calling 880-1000.***

What can I take to a convenience center?

Fees may apply. There is no charge for recycling.

Residential Trash, Scrap Metal, Furniture / Appliances, Mattress / Box Spring (any combination 4/month), Tires (up to 4/month). All loose material must be bagged.

Homeowners that have small amounts of "do-it-yourself" construction or demolition waste such as drywall, wood, carpet, etc. can bring those items to Metro's Omohundro Residential Waste and Recycling Facility, 1019 Omohundro Place (entrance on Freightliner Drive). (615-880-1955) Hours: Tue.-Sat.: 8:00am-4:30pm

Household Hazardous Waste is accepted at the East

Convenience Center only. Cleaners / Solvents, Paints / Paint Thinners, Used Oil / Antifreeze, Batteries, Gas Cylinders, Air Conditioners, Florescent Tubes/Bulbs, Computer/Monitors (limit one system per month), etc.-- *Limit: 15 gal. / 100 lb. per household/month.*

Unpainted/untreated wood and leaves or brush can be taken to the Bordeaux Mulch Facility.

What is *not* accepted at a convenience center?

Commercial Waste of any kind, Waste in any commercial vehicle or vehicle with commercial tags, Gas Tanks, , Asbestos (shingles, flooring, etc.), Roofing Shingles, Rock/Brick/Dirt, Medical Waste, Radioactive Material, Ammunition / Flares / Fireworks.

Service problems and questions

If you have problems with your service, or questions about the program or recycling in general, call 880-1000 or go to the website <http://www.nashville.gov/recycle/recycle.htm>.

Brush Collection: Metro's Brush Collection Schedule is now available for July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. You can download the map for your area and sign up for email reminders at <http://www.nashville.gov/recycle/brush.htm>

Ransom Park Homeowners Association, Inc. Neighborhood Cleanup

Do you appreciate that the HOA keeps Ransom Park a Safe and Attractive Place to Live?
Saturday, March 14, 2009
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
Weather permitting

Free T-Shirts to first 10 Volunteers. Meet at the corner of Olive Circle and Ransom Rd. at 8 a.m. Trash bags and gloves provided.

Join the 2009 Great American Cleanup! NASHVILLE NAMED A NATIONAL HOST VENUE FOR 2009 GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP™

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - Tennessee's capitol will have the chance to showcase its Volunteer spirit and green initiatives this spring for Keep America Beautiful Inc.'s Great American Cleanup™. Nashville is one of three U.S. cities selected by KAB to host national spotlight events this year, Mayor Karl Dean and KAB President Matt McKenna announced today. Nashville will host the final national event on May 14 with a day of community projects, volunteer cleanups and educational exhibits in and around the Tennessee Bicentennial Mall State Park. Planned activities include a kickoff rally, "green" exhibits and education programs, and community cleanups in surrounding neighborhoods. Neighborhood Cleanup

In conjunction with The Great American Cleanup, Ransom Park HOA will sponsor a neighborhood cleanup day on Saturday May 16.

Nashville Earth Day Festival 2009

Saturday, April 18, 2009, 11 a.m. to 7 pm at Centennial Park **FREE.** Environmental exhibits and workshops on clean air, water, food and farming, cooking demonstrations, organic gardening and much more.

You're either progressing or regressing. The whole purpose of life is to keep the progress." Jada Pinkett Smith

District 28 News (From Councilman Dominy)

Dear Resident,

It has been a busy few weeks with numerous special meetings and events. I was honored to participate in the Civil Air Patrol exercise held right here in our district. Thanks to our neighbors David and Jeremy for the invite as well as all of the volunteers that serve our community through this important organization. Check out this link for more info on CAP and what they do. <http://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/html/index.htm>

I've been reviewing the proposed Clean Water Infrastructure Program (CWIP) (aka Water Department Fee legislation.) You can get more info on what is included in this comprehensive bill at the following web address.

<http://nashville.gov/water/cwip/>

Please mark your calendar for the following meetings and events:

Rural Hill and Moss Road Neighborhood Design Plan final presentation March 19, 6-8p.m.

Best Buy All-Star Gaming Tournament March 20, 5-9p.m. and 21, 9a.m.-5p.m.

Southeast Easter Egg Event April 4, 10a.m.-12 noon.

Tell them Councilman Dominy Sent You Spring is on the way! The grass will soon be growing and your mower may need some work. Why not save some money, help one of our local businesses and be prepared for the summer? I've spoken to Underwood Repair Service located at 1706 Antioch Pike. They have agreed to give 10% off your repair bill if you'll let them know "Councilman Dominy sent you." Go by and check out the services for your lawn mower, weed eater, paint sprayer, heater, generator, air compressor, pressure washer, blower, chainsaw, tiller, go cart, mini bike or other small engine powered device. This deal will not last for long so give them a call at 615-833-2022.

Apollo Parents Bring Crime to the Forefront To see our community in the news, see the following links.

<http://www.nashvillecitypaper.com/news.php?viewStory=65761>

Community Clean-up Day set for April 14 Our great District 28 Beautification Commissioner, Bill Covington, has scheduled our next Community Clean-up Day for April 14, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. until

1:00 p.m. at Antioch Middle School on Blue Hole Rd. Same as last year on the North end of the campus near the Football Stadium. We will place the Roll-Back Dumpster in the area aforementioned to collect bulk items. Knight-Heirst Shredding Company will be on hand for personal document shredding. Recycle Containers will be available for plastic, glass, newspapers, and etc.

Bill is in the process of getting Apollo Middle for October and Districts 28 & 33 for the Big K-Mart Community Day Clean-up for July 2009.

Student Intern Program FYI – should you know of any students that may be interested please let me know. <http://ccc.nashville.gov/portal/page/portal/ccc/studentInternProgram/>

Tommy Bradley
862-5663

Chamber committee announces Report Card results

The Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce has released its 16th annual Report Card for Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools. Prepared by the 23 volunteers on the Education Report Card Committee, the report overviews the 2007-2008 school year, focusing on the areas of school system performance, high school redesign and teacher quality. To download the full report use this link.

http://www.nashvillechamber.com/education/0708reportcard_.pdf

Annual Southeast Easter Egg Event

Saturday, April 4 at 10:00am-12:00pm

Where: Antioch Community Center Grounds

To see more details and RSVP, follow the link below:
<http://www.facebook.com/n/?event.php&eid=59916467951>

Local College Accepting Applications for Over \$75,000 in Scholarships Chairman's & President's Scholarship Program Application Deadline is April 1

National College is accepting applications for the Chairman's and President's Scholarship awards funded by the College and given to select graduating seniors of accredited secondary schools who will attend National College. Deadline to apply is April 1, 2009. For more information visit: www.national-college.edu and click "Financial Assistance" then "Scholarships" for more information or to download a copy of the application form.

HOV Smart Pass Program *Fyi...Below is information on a new program that allows drivers of Hybrid vehicles with the appropriate state-issued decal (from the TN Dept of Revenue) to use HOV lanes without a second passenger.*

The Department of Revenue is mailing decals to drivers who qualify for the HOV Smart Pass decal. Drivers who qualify must operate certain hybrids that fall within EPA's designation of high-efficiency, low-emissions, meaning that not all hybrids qualify. For example, a Yukon hybrid does not, while most Civic hybrid models do.

Some brief information on the Smart Pass decal: Decals will be displayed on the right side of the rear windshield. TDOT, THP and Revenue worked together on the design to ensure that it met the requirements and needs for all departments, including designing a decal that is easily noticeable by law enforcement.

A full list of qualifying vehicles and more information about the program is available at our Web site:<http://state.tn.us/revenue/vehicle/hovpass.htm>.

Effective January 1, 2009, the Department of Revenue will begin accepting applications for the Smart Pass program, which allows hybrid vehicles to drive in high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes without satisfying the two-passenger minimum.

(District 28 News continued on page 7)

South Traffic Crash Target Areas

February 1 through February 28, 2009

"A" Detail:

There were 154 crashes reviewed.

Causative Factors:

Following Improperly was noted in 40 incidents (26%).

Failure to Yield was noted in 32 incidents (21%)

Other was noted in 16 incidents (10%)

60 crashes occurred from 0700 hours until 0900 hours.

Areas of concern:

I24 W beginning in the area of Bell Rd inbound to Murfreesboro Pike. There were 12 crashes reported. Nolensville Pike from Welshwood to Old Hickory Blvd. There were 15 crashes reported. Harding Place from Antioch Pk to Trousdale. There were 14 crashes reported.

"B" Detail:

There were 195 crashes reviewed.

Causative Factors:

Following Improperly was noted in 50 incidents (26%)

Failure to Yield was noted in 29 incidents (15%)

Other/Unknown was noted in 27 incidents (14%)

93 crashes occurred from 1500 hours until 1800 hours.

Areas of concern:

Nolensville Pike from the area near I440 to Old Hickory Blvd. There were 30 incidents along this stretch.

Murfreesboro Pike from Polk Ave to OHB. There were 23 incidents reported for this area. I24 E beginning in the area west of Harding Place proceeding east to Bell Rd. There were 15 incidents along this stretch.

"C" Detail:

There were 39 crashes reviewed.

Causative Factors:

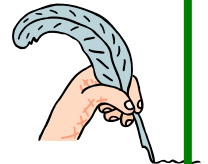
Failure to Keep Lane was noted in 17 incidents (44%)

12 crashes occurred from 0500 hours until 0700 hours.

Areas of concern:

OHB and I24. There were three incidents at this intersection.

*Sgt. Suzanne Stephens, Community Affairs Coordinator
South Precinct
5101 Harding Place, Nashville, TN 37211
(615) 880-3182
suzanne.stephens@nashville.gov*



DATES TO REMEMBER

- March 14 Saturday 8-9a-RPHOA Neighborhood Clean Up Day
- March 19, Wednesday 6-8p- Rural Hill and Moss Road Neighborhood Design Plan final presentation
- **March 26.Thursday 7-8p- Annual Association Mtg.** (2009 Board Election Mtg) 5101 Harding Place-Metro Police Dept
- March 20, 5-9p and 21 Fri/Sat 9a-5p- Best Buy All-Star Gaming Tournament
- April 4, Saturday 10a-12noon-Southeast Easter Egg Event
- April 18 Saturday 11a-7pm- Nashville Earth Day Festival at Centennial Park
- May 4 Monday 6:15 Neighborhood Watch Mtg Centerstone
- May 16, Saturday-2009 Great American Clean Up Day
- May 16 Saturday 8-9a-RPHOA Neighborhood Clean Up Day

Tips to Settle in Safely

Taken from Remax Elite article

When you buy a home, there will be many jobs to accomplish, from changing your address and having your utilities shut off at your old residence to cleaning and unpacking at your new home. Don't overlook these important tasks to help ensure your safety:

Immediately have the locks changed...Change the codes on security systems and garage door openers...Replace the batteries on the smoke alarms. Buy one fire extinguisher for each level of the house, as well as the basement and the garage. Make sure the house numbers are at least 6-inches tall...to help emergency vehicles spot your house should the need ever arise.

Citrus Broiled Alaskan Salmon

2 oranges

1 ½ lbs. Alaskan salmon fillets, thawed if necessary, salt, to taste

1 tsp. red wine vinegar

¼ cup sliced green onions

1 tsp. cracked black pepper

To make: Remove peel and pit from oranges; slice crosswise into ¼ inch rounds. Cut salmon fillets into 4 equal portions; season with salt. Broil fillets, 4-6 inches from heat, allowing 10 minutes per inch of thickness, measured at thickest part. Remove fillets just before they are cooked through. Sprinkle with vinegar. Arrange orange rounds on top, and sprinkle with green onions and cracked pepper. Broil 1 minute longer. (Makes 4 servings)

Neighborhood Watch Update

Our 1st NHW meeting was a great success! Held Monday, February 2, 2009 at our neighborhood business, Centerstone Center at Ransom Place, we had over 18 residents to attend, plus a host of city officials including our Neighborhood Liaison, Scott Wallace from the Mayor's Office. The meeting was led by Sgt. Suzanne Stephens of the MNPD South Precinct. Our neighborhood watch area was defined and assigned Captains and Co-captains. Some areas are still in need of Block Captains. This is an excellent opportunity to make a difference in your community! To volunteer contact Tresa Williams at 313-415-4008 or email at ransomparknhw@yahoo.com

What Would You Do?

- Suspicious activity on your block?
- Unidentified cars parked in front of your house?
- Solicitors looking in windows or in your yard?
- Stray dogs?
- Speeding cars and other reckless behavior?

Call your neighborhood watch captain or director or Metro Nashville Non-emergency dispatch at 615-862-8600. For **life threatening** emergencies only, dial **911**.

Believe it or not all the above scenarios distract from our safety and overall quality of life. Let's keep Ransom Park a safe place to live!

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313-415-4008

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Bridal Seminar

"How to Plan the Perfect Wedding"

Sunday, April 26, 2009

12:00 Noon-5:00 pm

Hampton Inn Nashville-Airport

503 Donelson Pike, Nashville, TN 37214

FREE EVENT

EVERYONE WELCOME TO ATTEND, but FOR A FREE GOODIE BAG YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER AT

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sales@cateringbytresa.com

**RSVP/MORE INFO: www.cateringbytresa.com ,
313-415-4008, sales@cateringbytresa.com**

Wedding Specialist and Vendors for your special day will be present to consult with you one-on-one. Let the experts show you how to make your event "Beautiful on a Budget". From skincare to photography professionals, everything you need at your fingertips! Come early and stay late! Hourly classroom presentations, vendor booths, samples, Door Prizes and More!



(Dist 28 News continued from page 5)

Health Department Survey Finds Majority of Nashville Residents Support Placing Calories on Menus and Menu Boards For more information about the proposed regulation visit the Health Department's website at www.health.nashville.gov

MNPD's EI Protector Program named as Model for Other Cities to Replicate The New York City based Vera Institute of Justice today named the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department's EI Protector Program as among the nation's best law enforcement efforts at communicating with limited English proficient communities.

The MNPD is one of six American law enforcement agencies profiled by Vera in a special report entitled, "***Bridging the Language Divide: Promising Practices for Law Enforcement***," which is now posted online at www.vera.org. The report was created in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.

"After visiting with your agency and meeting with you and your staff, it was clear that your agency is on the forefront of effectively communicating with limited English proficient communities," the Vera Institute's Susan Shah and Rodolfo Estrada wrote in a letter to Chief Ronal Serpas. "We are happy to announce that your agency was selected through our Translating Justice National Best Practices Project, which is the first of its kind to look at best practices for serving limited English proficient communities in policing contexts."

The MNPD's EI Protector Program, which was begun in 2004, is headed day-to-day by two officers who speak fluent Spanish. They are assigned to the South and Hermitage Precincts, which encompass areas of Nashville with the highest Latino population. Those officers liaison with leaders of Spanish speaking communities and Latino businesses, as well as make regular appearances on Spanish radio to provide key law enforcement information and offer crime prevention tips.

"Our police department views the EI Protector Program as a critical service that reaches out to a segment of our community who may not be familiar with American, and particularly Nashville, law enforcement practices," Chief Ronal Serpas said. "I am grateful that the Vera Institute of Justice believes that our program is one that can be considered for replication by other law enforcement agencies in the United States."

The Vera Institute of Justice is an independent nonprofit organization that combines expertise in research, demonstration projects, and technical assistance to help leaders in government and civil society improve the systems people rely on for justice and safety.

Park Smart Report Feb. 8-14: 42.5% of Stolen Vehicles Taken with Keys A review of stolen vehicle reports in Nashville from Sunday, February 8, through Saturday, February 14, shows that 42.5% of the automobiles taken (17 of 40) were easy targets because the keys were left inside or made available to thieves.

The police department's continuing PARK SMART campaign strongly urges citizens to lock their automobile doors, secure any valuables and REMOVE THE KEYS.

Officers also urge citizens to SHOP SMART by not leaving purses or other valuables unattended in shopping carts, even for a very short time. An unattended purse is an easy target for a thief.

"I just returned from a meeting of neighborhood watch leaders sponsored by Commander Mike Alexander at the South Police Precinct. It was a packed house of community leaders from all over the police precinct working together. I saw two of the groups present, which were formed since I took office. It was announced that our "EI Protector" program was just honored nationally as being one of the best six outreach programs in the country. Commander Alexander is working hard to make a difference here in south Nashville. I could go on with more of the great things happening in our community, but that will have to wait for another time. Always remember, it is people like you that make our community GREAT and working together we will make it even better."

Proud to serve,
Duane Dominy, District 28 Councilman
101 Cherokee Place, Antioch, TN 37013
615-831-0774
duanead2@yahoo.com

FEW REMINDERS

- We are asking that you do not park on both sides of the street. It would be ideal if everyone would park in their garages and or in their own driveways. However, if you have to park on the street, please try to **leave room for emergency vehicles to get through and park in the direction of traffic.**
- The speed limit in Ransom Park is 30 miles per hour.
- If you are having a gathering at your residence, please be considerate of your neighbors. Excessive noise and parking rule restrictions will be enforced.
- Please make sure that you submit plans for any and all structural additions to the exterior of your home for Board approval. See RP Bylaws, page 11, Article VIII- Architectural Control.
- Backyards and decks should be maintained in a clean, safe and sanitary condition as well. Clothes and rugs should not be hung out for extended periods of time; office furniture, mattresses, exercise equipment etc. should be stored elsewhere inside the home or crawl space.
- We encourage all homeowners to get house alarms. Alarms do not stop burglaries. However, they are a deterrent. According to statistics many break-ins are committed by people familiar with your home. Alarms can increase the value of your home and decrease your insurance cost.

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How Do You Know If Your Local Market is Getting Soft?

If you are at the beach watching the water swirl around your feet, it is impossible to know whether the tide is coming in or going out. The same is true of the real estate market. However, there are signs to help you predict probable market trends.

How do you know if your local market is getting soft? Average selling time for houses has lengthened by 30% or more; Widening gap between asking prices and final selling prices; Vacancy rate in office buildings and other commercial real estate is increasing; Decline in the number of building permits issued

How do you know if your local market is getting strong? Local employment is rising 3% or more annually; Stable or shrinking number of houses are for sale; Area enjoys significant upgrading or expansion of retail business; Extensive highway development or a new airport--improved transportation often brings growth to an area; Major land purchases are being made by expanding or relocating companies; Many new houses are of high quality; High percentage of owner-occupied housing in the neighborhood

I hope you have enjoyed the tidbits I've sent you.

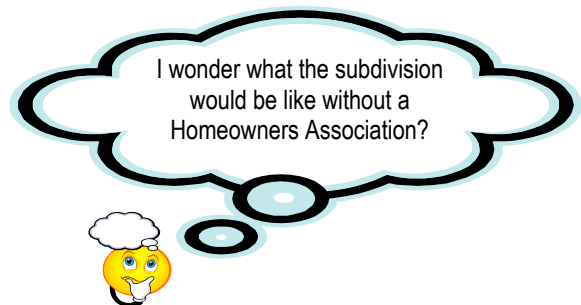
*Sincerely,
Shazone King
Mortgage Banker*

SHARE COMMUNITY NEWS! SHARE GOOD NEWS!

There is so much bad news on the television today. We've decided to make The Park Bench a forum to share good news and dates for community events! If you have news, please contact the RPHOA Secretary at www.ransompark.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Do you have an issue or concern that you feel the rest of RP needs to know about or address. Please contact the RPHOA Secretary by going to www.ransompark.com. Please, remember to keep all articles family friendly.



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