

# Benington Bugle

Volume 1, Issue 1

March 2010

## Dues Drive Kick-off

**Andrea Pope, BHA President**

It is time once again for our annual Benington Homeowners Association Dues Drive. The annual dues will remain at \$75 this year. Payment is **due by April 30**. I want to thank Ryan and Dawn Childress for volunteering their time to lead the dues drive campaign again this year.

### Payment Methods

- [Mail check](#)
- [Drop off check](#)
- [PayPal](#)

A return envelope will be provided to all Benington residents for payment by check. Please make check payable to Benington Homeowners Association and mail in the envelope provided. You may also drop off the payment and envelope at Nolen Campbell's home at 8804 New Canaan Dr. to save on the cost of the stamp.

This year, we have added the option to pay the dues online through a PayPal account that has been established for BHA. Access [beningtonbugle.com](http://beningtonbugle.com) for the link to the online payment through PayPal.

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**Benington Homeowners Association**  
118 N. Peters Rd  
Suite 306  
Knoxville, TN 37923

## Plans for Improving Communication

One of the challenges facing a neighborhood with 350 homes is communication with each of the residents. The following are some of the actions taken and plans for 2010 to improve communication between BHA and the neighborhood residents:

### (1) [beningtonbugle.com](http://beningtonbugle.com) web page

Expand the content and encourage residents to register as a user. This will allow for e-mail communication to the residents regarding important information (e.g. crime alerts, lost pets) or upcoming BHA events (meetings, garage sales).

### (2) **Benington Neighborhood is on [facebook](#)**

Search for 'Benington Neighborhood' on facebook. This page allows for social networking and access to neighborhood information. Add yourself as a fan to allow for access to information updates/posts.

### (3) **Distribute Information through Block Chairpersons**

A listing of the block chairpersons for different areas of the neighborhood will be posted to the website and facebook page. Information will be provided to the block chairpersons for distribution to existing residents or to welcome new residents.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

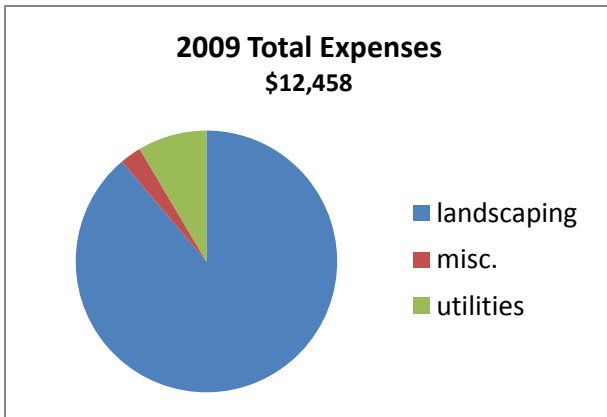
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Please note that there is a small PayPal fee for the online payment, so the amount due will display with the additional fee (e.g. \$2-3).

### What Are Dues Used For?

Our \$75 annual dues are used to cover the expenses of maintaining our neighborhood which includes: mowing at the three entrances, the medians on Colchester and Shoreham, and the grass areas along the sidewalk on Ebenezer road; landscaping and utilities (lights and water) at the entrances.

In 2009, dues collected totaled \$11,755 (representing 42% of the homes). This was not enough to cover the normal expenses required to keep our neighborhood looking great. 89% of the dues are used to pay for contracted lawn maintenance and landscaping. In addition to lawn mowing expenses, this contract includes sprinkler maintenance, trash pickup, pruning, fertilization and weeding.



### Why Payment Is So Important

Benington's homeowners dues are a bargain in comparison to other neighborhoods in the area, taking into consideration the size and number of entrances and common areas to maintain:

Neighborhood	Annual Dues
Benington	\$75
Williford	\$100
Roefield	\$360
Braddocks Place	\$350
Woods at Bluegrass	\$100
Wittington Creek	\$900
Farrington	\$35
Northshore Hills	\$275
West Arden	\$275
Westchester	\$225
Westshore	\$255
Weatherstone	\$120

### Please pay your share

We need everyone to pay the dues to cover our expenses and to have additional funds to make improvements to the neighborhood (e.g. added irrigation and lights at Strawflower entrance; planting trees or shrubs). For example, if dues are collected from 70% of the homes, the neighborhood will have a fund of approximately \$7,200 for improvements and to provide a "cushion" in case of emergencies such as vandalism, storm damage or other unforeseen circumstances.

### Important Knox County Numbers:

Knox County Office of Neighborhoods and Code Enforcement (report yards with grass longer than 12 inches, inoperable vehicles, blighted property)

215-4357

<http://www.knoxcounty.org/oon/>

e-mail violations to [neighborhoods@knoxcounty.org](mailto:neighborhoods@knoxcounty.org)

Knox County Non-Emergency Police Services (report vandalism)

215-2444

Knox County Animal Control

215-5240

Pothole Hotline (report potholes that need repair)

215-5800

## **BHA OFFICERS FOR 2010**

### **PRESIDENT**

vacant

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Greg Luepke

### **TREASURER**

Nolen Campbell

### **SECRETARY**

Vacant

## **BHA COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

(see [beningtonbugle.com](http://beningtonbugle.com) for roles description)

### **WEBMASTER**

Dave Friday

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Ryan and Dawn Childress

### **BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

Vacant (2-3)

### **RULES ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE**

Vacant (2-3)

### **BLOCK CHAIRPERSONS**

Amblewinds – vacant (1)

Barley Circle – vacant (1)

Chelsea – vacant (1)

Chimney Point – vacant (1)

Colchester Ridge – vacant (4)

Halifax – vacant (1)

Newfane – vacant (1)

Ryegate – vacant (1)

Shoreham – vacant (1)

Strawflower – vacant (2)

Wenlock – vacant (3)

## **We Need Volunteers**

*Greg Luepke, BHA Vice President*

The BHA Officer positions are intended to be a two year position. I want to thank Andrea Pope for the leadership she has provided as BHA President over the past 3 years. As Andrea steps down this year, we are looking for two volunteers to fill officer roles (President and Secretary).

Many residents have helped to distribute newsletters and dues in previous years. We are looking for volunteers to serve as the block chairperson for 2010. A meeting will be held in early April to bring the group of volunteers together and to provide information and instruction to help improve communication throughout the neighborhood.

The Beautification Committee and Rules Enforcement Committee also need volunteers.

An overview of the roles and responsibilities can be found on the [beningtonbugle.com](http://beningtonbugle.com) website or on the [facebook](#) page.

If you have any interest in filling the vacant positions, please contact Greg Luepke (694-4438, [GregLuepke@aol.com](mailto:GregLuepke@aol.com)). For those of you who have already responded to the volunteer solicitation from [beningtonbugle.com](http://beningtonbugle.com) e-mail, you do not need to respond again.