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Dedicated to Westwood in Simpsonville.  
A place for building community and sharing with neighbors.

# Happy New Year!

Welcome 2015! We hope you have had a great year and are looking forward to the year to come. We have all made some great strides in Westwood in coming together to get to know one another and helping each other out when needed. We look forward to more community events and hope that you will all join us in helping to build a neighborhood into something that we can all be proud of.

If you would like to help us in determining what type of events would best support this initiative please fill out our survey and let us know what your interests are. Are you more interested in events for kids or events for adults or both? Visit



<http://goo.gl/forms/epoZ4sYbYT>

and let us know.

From all of us in Westwood Neighborhood we would like to wish you a happy and healthy new year.

Want the newsletter emailed to you each month? [Subscribe at westwoodneighborhood.org](http://westwoodneighborhood.org).



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## Neighbors Helping Neighbors

By: Cheryl Gallion

On Saturday, December 13, 2014 neighbors pulled together at the request of Karen Lyke. Karen's neighbor, Ms. Rosemary received a notice from the city to clean up her yard or be fined. Karen asked if anyone would be willing to help Ms. Rosemary, who is unable to do the work herself. Lou Hutchings, Patty O'Neal, and Fred Rhodes (Midtown Lawn Care) stepped up to help.



Working together, they succeeded in what the city was requesting and avoided Ms. Rosemary being fined.

A special thank you to all of those who helped Ms. Rosemary! Your generosity is very much appreciated.

## Police Explorers Program

By: Cheryl Gallion

On December 17, 2014 the Simpsonville Police Department held an inaugural meeting of the Law Enforcement Explorers Program, also known as the Cadet Program. The program is for youth ages 14 to 20 and offers hands on experience in a fun and exciting environment. Requirements of each cadet includes monthly training and meetings as well as 60 hours of training to become certified. Training will include the following:

- » History of law enforcement
- » Patrol procedures and operations
- » Laws of arrest
- » Search and seizure
- » Criminal and juvenile law
- » Ethics
- » Report writing
- » Traffic/crowd control
- » Basic first aid/CPR
- » Radio communications
- » Crime scene techniques
- » Community relations

Benefits of this program include: improved self confidence, leadership experience, Community service opportunities, team building and social networking skills.

For more information, contact Officer Russ Holthaus at [rholthaus@simpsonvillepd.com](mailto:rholthaus@simpsonvillepd.com).

## Community Events Calendar

JANUARY	
	<i>No Events</i>

FEBRUARY	
<i>2/7/2015</i>	<i>Valentine's Craft Event</i>

MARCH	
<i>TBD</i>	<i>St. Patrick's Day</i>
	<i>Pot Luck</i>
<i>TBD</i>	<i>Easter Egg Hunt</i>





# Tips for Selling Your Home

By: Caroline Richardsom Mahaffey

If you are considering selling your home, there are some steps you should take before you put your house on the market. And this is the right time to take them, as late February through early March is the ideal time to try to sell your home.

Start with the yard. Approach your home as a stranger might, by driving in to your drive. Is the parking area clean, or is the asphalt cracked, with weeds shooting through? Does your yard need manicuring? We aren't talking about your teenager running a mower over the grass. Do the limbs need cutting back? Do the flower beds need mulch? Are there bare spots in the yard? Curb appeal is important.



It is the very first thing people notice when driving down the street. If the yard does not appear well maintained, people assume the house is not either.

Move on to the house, but don't go inside! How are your gutters? Test them with a hose, as well as make certain they are all properly attached to the home. Look up. Does your roof need cleaning? A build up of leaves and pine straw can contribute to damage in an otherwise healthy roof. Not to mention, it just looks bad. Now, look down. Are outside faucets properly attached and in working order? Are crawl space doors securely hung and covers on any vents?

Before you go inside, check your outside window sills, shutters, porches and doors. Is the paint

chipped? Are there cracked or broken windows? Is there evidence of rot? Are the shutters properly attached? What about the screen and storm doors? How does the hardware look? Does your deck need a touch up? If you have vinyl siding, are there pieces that are loose? Does the house need a good washing?

Time to go inside. This is when you need to have your best friend with you. We all become desensitized to the odors in our home. Don't fool yourself in to thinking that scented candles spread throughout your home are taking care of pet and smoke odor. Just the opposite. A buyer is going to wonder what you are trying to cover up, and just might be allergic to the source or to the cover up. Your home should have a natural, clean odor, without smelling like cleaner. The solution may be as simple as cleaning the carpets and upholstered furniture.

Continued on next page...



## Trivia Corner

Check back every month for a new trivia question. Look for the answer on [westwoodneighborhood.org](http://westwoodneighborhood.org) or in next months newsletter.

**What month and year did Westwood officially become a subdivision? What 8 streets were included in this first section?**

December's Trivia Corner...

Can you name all 7 streets in Westwood that are not related to a tribe, a tree or that end in wood?

*Arkrose Ct, Ashdown Dr, Clear Creek Ct, Davenport Rd, Fauna Ct, Lone Rock Ct, and Sherondale Ln.*





# Happy New Year!

# CONGRATULATIONS!

## Word Scramble

epaer ahp ywny \_\_\_\_\_  
 tcao \_\_\_\_\_  
 lcod \_\_\_\_\_  
 eumrsffa \_\_\_\_\_  
 flpriacee \_\_\_\_\_  
 tah \_\_\_\_\_  
 ilodayh \_\_\_\_\_  
 tak ciese \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nwso \_\_\_\_\_  
 Icleic \_\_\_\_\_  
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 rayjanu \_\_\_\_\_  
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 olehsv \_\_\_\_\_  
 enwskofla \_\_\_\_\_  
 nsnwmoa \_\_\_\_\_  
 wertni \_\_\_\_\_  
 Kgiier antmr hltnu \_\_\_\_\_  
 ndgidsle \_\_\_\_\_  
 ydnwi \_\_\_\_\_

A special thank you to the Hillcrest Rams and the following Westwood residents for their hard work and dedication in becoming state champions!!

Charlie Riveria  
 Jamarion McBride  
 Zion Wharton




**Caroline  
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## Tips continued...

By: Caroline Richardsom Mahaffey

It may be as painful as not allowing smokers in your home and giving your pet more yard time. Then add some natural deodorizers and air fresheners, such as house plants and cinnamon brooms.

Time to check out the house! Do the carpets need cleaning, the wood floors polished? Are there

scuff marks on the linoleum? Is the weather stripping in place?

Check for marks on the walls, and old nail holes. Did your child attach a poster using tape, or draw a mural on her wall? Are your faucets dripping, your toilet running, your kitchen sink slow to drain? Do all your closet doors hang correctly, and have the proper hardware?

Check for the same with kitchen and bathroom cabinets. Do all the outlets have plates, and are they clean and in one piece? These are all simple, mostly cosmetic issues, but again, a home that appears well cared for is easier to sell, and for a better price.

