

Conversations from a Neighborhood App by Tom Baerwald

Conditions for Use of the NeighborConverse App

The NeighborConverse app is designed to facilitate constructive communication and community spirit among neighbors. Users of the NeighborConverse app agree to behave in accordance with these principles:

- Focus on local matters.
- Be yourself.
- Be nice.
- Treat everyone with respect.
- Ensure no one is harmed.

Failure to comply with these principles can result in the loss of access to the app.

Some guy may be on drugs or have other problems

Martin T. – *Bluffton* – 5 days ago

Some guy may be on drugs or have other problems. Knocked loudly on my door at 6 this morning saying he and his friends were there to do yardwork. We hadn't asked for help with our yard. I gave them some incentive to leave, so I didn't report the incident. Be sure to lock your doors.

Chris J. – *Sequoia* – 5 days ago

If I'd answered the door, I'd have reported them to the police. This may be a broader pattern. I'd rather the police know about this stuff instead of thinking everything is OK.

Glen B. – *Sequoia* – 5 days ago

There have been many posts lately about strangers trying to get access to our homes. More people have security cameras, but the strangers seem bolder. So many people have guns now that it could be deadly for intruders. Just one more thing to cause us stress.

Carol M. – *Devon West* – 5 days ago

While someone is distracting you at the front door, his buddies may be trying to get in your garage or back door so they can steal stuff or harm you. Be alert. Stay safe.

Vanessa W. – *Valle Verde* – 5 days ago

If you don't know the guy, report this to the police. Don't take chances.

Helen F. – *Devon North* – 4 days ago

What kind of incentive did you give them to leave? I wouldn't have answered the door.

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I just moved to Bradenburg

Rebecca L. – *Devon North – 4 days ago*

I just moved to Bradenburg. I heard five or six shots fired a few hours ago. Lots of police arrived. Many cops are still a few blocks away. Is this normal? Where I used to live, people commented about gunshots whenever any loud sound was heard. I clearly heard gunshots tonight.

Taryn D. – *Devon North – 4 days ago*

It's all too common here. It shouldn't be normal, but it is.

Latasha G. – *Devon West – 4 days ago*

I'm so sorry you have to deal with this. Life is precious, but many people seem not to care.

Marty S. – *Valle Verde – 4 days ago*

Yes, it's normal. Checkout posts from the Bradenburg PD.

Rebecca L. – *Devon North – 4 days ago*

Thanks for your messages. I was expecting some crime, but not gunfire so soon and so near. Otherwise, I love the neighborhood.

Sun-ye K. – *Devon North – 3 days ago*

@Rebecca, that's how things are here. I'm sorry you've had this experience.

Tim S. – *Sequoia – 4 days ago*

Welcome to Bradenburg.

Jeremiah R. – *South Bradenburg – 3 days ago*

Welcome to Tombstone!

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A man is knocking on doors saying he has to check internet connections

Frank A. – *Valle Verde – 3 days ago*

A man is knocking on doors saying he has to check internet connections. He wore a FSWeblink shirt, but I wouldn't let him in.

Jill K. – *Valle Verde – 3 days ago*

I think he walked by my house not long ago while I was in the side yard. I'm glad he didn't stop.

Amos S. – *Valle Verde – 3 days ago*

I can't figure out why he's picking certain houses. After he'd chatted with me, he skipped some houses and knocked about four doors down.

Glen B. – *Sequoia – 3 days ago*

@Amos, he may think we will call next door to warn others, so he moves along to surprise other people.

William P. – *Birchwood – 3 days ago*

Somebody came to my house offering StayAlert security services. He had a StayAlert shirt and a tablet that he said listed the StayAlert customers in our area.

Chris J. – Sequoia – 3 days ago

@William, that sounds fishy. Someone should report him to the company.

Kevin K. – Valle Verde – 3 days ago

Stay alert is right. I had StayAlert when someone with a StayAlert shirt told me he needed to check on connections. The next thing I knew I was being billed by something called Fillmore Security.

Sue G. – Bluffton – 3 days ago

I tell company reps don't come to my door unless I call for service. Get off my porch. You're wasting everyone's time, because I'm not answering my door.

Loraine C. – Birchwood – 2 days ago

@Sue, YES! That goes especially for the ones who think they have to enter your house so they can sell you solar panels or pest removal or wifi or alarm systems or whatever.

Latasha G. – Devon West – 3 days ago

Our security company sent a message warning us about scammers claiming to be with their company.

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A stranger had his hand on our door knob.

Samuel M – Birchwood – 2 days ago

A stranger had his hand on our door knob. He'd opened the screen door and seemed to be trying to enter. I watched him from an upstairs room. He waited a minute and walked back to a blue pickup truck. He then drove away.

People should knock or ring the doorbell, not grab the door knob.

Taryn D. – Devon North – 2 days ago

@Samuel, did you know this person? Maybe he was at the wrong house.

Carolyn S. – Sequoia – 2 days ago

@Taryn, I thought the same thing. If he acted like the door might be unlocked, maybe he thought someone inside had unlocked it for him.

Xander L. – Valle Verde – 2 days ago

This kind of thing scares me. I need to get a doorbell camera or other kinds of security.

Laura A. – Devon West – 2 days ago

Me too.

Peter W. – Sequoia – 2 days ago

@Samuel, please elaborate. Was this an attempted burglary or a confused person? You talked about a stranger but then gave him the benefit of the doubt. If you think this person might be a criminal, please say so.

Samuel M. – Birchwood – 2 days ago

@Peter, I didn't want to speculate without solid evidence, but I suspect he was trying to enter and steal some stuff.

Luke E. – Devon West – 2 days ago

We recently moved into our new house. A few days later a young man knocked on our door. He said his uncle lived here a few years ago. The uncle didn't tell him he'd moved, so this guy thought he still lived here. He gave us his name and said that marks noting his height were made in an upstairs closet whenever he visited. Sure enough, the marks were there next to his initials. We couldn't help him track down his uncle, but he was happy to know it was the right house.

Jeremiah R. – South Bradenburg – 2 days ago

@Samuel, please PM me. I have lots of electrical experience and can help you discourage future intrusions. You can provide an immediate surprise for possible intruders ranging from a mild jolt to something really hair raising. It's your house and your property! You have the right to protect it!

Helen F. – Devon North – 1 day ago

@Jeremiah, you're kidding, aren't you?

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Around midnight last night

Michael B. – Devon West – 1 day ago

About midnight last night, some teenagers put fireworks by our front door. They exploded for over 30 seconds with lots of noise and smoke. They charred our door. We saw them running down Posey Lane in the direction of Sentinel Rd. There was a loud party going on a few doors down Posey, with loud music and lots of drinking. We think the teens came from that party. We want to find out who they are so we can report them to the police and sue them for property damage. If you want our community to be safe, help us identify them so they can be held accountable for their criminal behavior.

Glen B. – Sequoia – 1 day ago

@Mike, I hope you get them. Security cameras at neighbors houses could track them down.

Chris J – Sequoia – 1 day ago

I'd contact the police right away so they can get the info they need to catch these delinquents.

Jeremiah R. – South Bradenburg – 1 day ago

The Bradenburg police won't canvass neighbors or do anything else to solve property crimes, so victims have to do it themselves. Your neighbors might be helpful, but when I reported vandalism, loitering, and pissing in public to the police, the cops didn't do squat.

Riley J. – Devon West – 1 day ago

Report this to the police immediately.

Alfred S. – Birchwood – 1 day ago

Its too bad that law enforcement do not enforce laws which is why hooligans and others who come into our neighborhood get away with crimes. Even worse is that some neighbors don't care and allow bad people to hang around and do bad things. SMH in disgust.

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OMG I just heard a story on the TV

Latasha G. – Devon West – 1 hour ago

OMG I just heard a story on TV about a dead woman on a porch in Birchwood.

Martin T. – Bluffton – 47 minutes ago

Don't know what story or TV station you're talking about. Sad if someone died.

Teresa W. – Valle Verde – 6 minutes ago

I've uploaded a copy of the article from the KZYZ website. So very, very tragic.

KZYZ-TV News (updated 23 minutes ago)

Woman found dead on front porch in Bradenburg

A woman was found dead today on the front porch of a house in the 11400 block of Smithson St. in the Birchwood neighborhood of Bradenburg. She apparently was making a delivery for the Speedy Sure Courier Service.

The body was discovered by a neighbor who preferred to remain anonymous. This neighbor was walking their dogs and noted a Speedy Sure van idling along the street without a driver.

The neighbor observed the screen door propped open at an odd angle at a house near the idling van. The neighbor went up to the porch and found the courier lying in front of the door.

The neighbor called 911. An ambulance, fire truck, and police cars arrived within minutes. EMTs pronounced the woman dead at the scene. Her identity has not been disclosed pending notification of the next of kin.

The Bradenburg Police Department is investigating the death. BPD officials have declined to say whether the woman died from accidental or other causes. The neighbor who'd first found the body said that the woman's hand appeared to be burned. Other neighbors said the police were conducting an intense examination of the front door.

The house's occupants were not available to comment about the woman's death. Additional information will be provided when it becomes available.