

# Washington County Sheriff's Office

## Neighborhood Watch Newsletter



**Fred Newman, Sheriff**

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*"Take the Time to Prevent a Crime"*

**Captain Gary Coleman**

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

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### Statistics for June

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	2	
ASSAULT (SIMPLE)	14	
BURGLARY/BREAKING & ENTERING	19	
CREDIT CARD FRAUD	1	
DESTRUCTION/DAMAGE/VANDALISM	28	
DUI	7	
DRUG/NARCOTIC VIOLATIONS	15	
DRUNKENNESS	7	
EMBEZZLEMENT	1	
IMPERSONATION	5	
KIDNAPPING	1	
LARCENY (ALL OTHER)	42	
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	6	
SHOPLIFTING	4	
TRESPASS OF REAL PROPERTY	5	
WEAPON LAW VIOLATIONS	3	
ALL OTHER OFFENSES	68	
<b>TOTAL OFFENSES</b>	<b>2</b>	
2 TOTAL ARRESTS	158 ADULTS	3 JUVENILE
TOTAL WARRANTS	1569 CIVIL	318 CRIMINAL

### SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

School will be starting soon and the usual concerns begin to come forth, both from parents and students.

The Washington County Sheriff's office has six School Resource Officers (SRO) who are assigned to patrol the schools in our county. The SRO's are sworn law enforcement officers who have the same powers as any law enforcement officer. Their responsibility is to assist the school staff with issues that could be criminal in nature. They are also there to make sure that the students have a safe environment. In many cases, the SRO is the person a student will come to if they have a problem in their home lives, if they are having trouble with other students, or even if the problem is with someone saying something about them on Facebook. The SRO is a strong influence in your child's life. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office.

**Thank you, Sheriff Newman**

### Monthly Meeting Schedule

08-06	BURSON CORNER (1 <sup>st</sup> Monday)	7:00 PM
	Goodson-Kinderhook Fire Department	
09-03	HIGH POINT (1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday)	7:00 PM
	High Point Elementary School	
08-02	MENDOTA/Community Center (1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday)	7:30 PM
08-21	HIGHLANDER PARK (3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday)	7:00 PM
	Noonkester Field Park	
08-16	ZION COMMUNITY/Zion Church(3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday)	7:00 PM
	Konnarock Community Center	
08-28	HAYTERS GAP/Community Center(4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday)	10:30 AM
08-28	POOR VALLEY (4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday)	7:00 PM
	Valley View Assembly of God Church	
08-23	KONNAROCK/Community Center(4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday)	7:00PM

### Quarterly Meeting Schedule

10-09	WOODLAND HILLS	
	Woodland Hills Christian Church	7:00 PM
10-11	GATE CITY HIGHWAY	7:00 PM
	Three Springs Methodist	
09-03	CLAYMAN VALLEY/GKVFD	7:00 PM
09-04	EAGLE RIDGE/High Point ES	7:00PM
09-10	CROWEVILLE /GLADE SPRING	7:00PM
09-11	HAYTERS GAP EVENING/CMFD	7:00 PM
09-13	QUAIL RIDGE/Ely Residence	7:00 PM
09-17	EVERGREEN HILLS/LOWRY HILLS	7:00 PM
	Noonkester Field Park	
09-19	MELVIN HILLS/ OAK HILL ESTATES	7:00 PM
	Pleasant View Methodist Church	
09-20	RAMBLEWOOD/WIDENER'S VALLEY	7:00 PM
	Zion Church	
09-08	WORTHINGTON WAY	7:00 PM
	Worthington Way Road	

### Monthly Topic

**SCHOOL RESOURCE**

## School Resource

With more attention being paid to the safety of young people while they are at school, many communities are considering strategies which are intended to make schools safer environments. Although statistics on school crime and violence convey that such crime and violence are not necessarily occurring in greater numbers, there is, at a minimum, anecdotal evidence which suggests that the types of incidents which are taking place on school property may be more severe in nature and may be having a marked, negative impact on the educational processes for which schools are responsible. One of the ways communities are taking action is by making decisions that law enforcement officers of some type need to be assigned to provide coverage to schools so that safety, security, and order can be better maintained. The underlying rationale which is being employed by communities is that a given school's crime and violence problems are not just that school's problem, but are reflective of community problems. Such a rationale leads to the consideration of community approaches. In many communities, the "School Resource Officer" (SRO) approach is considered. The Dare and School Resource Officers are in our county schools on a daily basis. The D.A.R.E. officers teach **Drug Abuse Resistance Education** classes to elementary, middle and high school students in our fifteen county schools. The School Resource Officer Program is a cooperative effort between education, law enforcement, and the community. The program promotes positive and effective communication between youth, teachers and law enforcement. Most of our School Resource Officers are cross-trained to teach in the D.A.R.E. program. The primary goal of the School Resource Officer is to ensure the safety of our students, faculty, and other school personnel. The Sheriff's Office currently has six School Resource Officers who are law enforcement certified to work in our schools. The mere presence of an officer in school eases the minds of parents. Things are not like they were when we were in school. You never heard about shootings, bomb threats, or random people coming into our schools. Unfortunately, times have changed and there is a need to have officers in the schools. SRO's have diverse roles in the school community with many duties and responsibilities. We have defined a School Resource Officer as a sworn officer assigned to a school on a long-term basis, trained to perform three major roles: law enforcement, law-related counsel and law-related educator. In addition, the officer works in collaboration with the school and the community as a resource for safety and security issues. As a law enforcement officer, the school becomes the officer's beat. The SRO assists the school administration in maintaining a safe and secure environment. School administrators benefit from the SRO's training, knowledge and experience in handling situations involving possible weapons violations, or in the identification of controlled dangerous substances. The SRO provides a highly visible presence in order to deter or

identify trespassers on campus. In addition, SRO's provide a service to the surrounding community by addressing concerns such as loitering, speeding or loud car radios. The students, when going to or from school, often generate these types of community complaints. SRO's are responsible for investigating violations of criminal law and, when appropriate, make arrests. An SRO's sworn duty to enforce the law does not contradict the need for the SRO to be a positive role model, it, in fact, supports it. It is essential for an SRO to endorse high moral standards and use good judgment and discretion. Through this, students learn and understand what a professional police officer does. It is important to note that SRO's are not school disciplinarians. SRO's should not be involved in investigating school rule violations, such as a student cheating on a test. Violations of school rules are the responsibility of the principal and faculty. If a violation of a school rule is also a criminal offense, the SRO may conduct a concurrent investigation and take the appropriate action under the policies and procedures set forth by their police agency. The role of law-related counselor should not be unfamiliar to a School Resource Officer. Police officers conduct street level, law related counseling on a regular basis. Similarly, guidance counselors will call upon the SRO to assist in conflict mediation efforts. Parents may seek information from the SRO if they suspect their child may be experimenting with drugs or alcohol. Students will ask the SRO for advice concerning a recent traffic ticket. Many times students will just want someone to talk to about problems that they are experiencing, and the SRO can act as another caring adult in the school building who works to find positive solutions for our young people.

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

### Who Am I On an Ordinary Day?

A couple of Sundays ago, we discussed Rebekah, a teenager in Genesis 24:17. On this particular occasion, she took the opportunity to be a servant on an ordinary day. A request was made to the Lord by a messenger, and to this young girl. She in, her servant's attitude, was an answer to the messengers prayer. Have you ever found yourself as an answer to someone's prayer? Rebekah made the decision to be the hands and feet of the Lord, to be used by God through obedience to her call to serve the needs of others. The messenger asked for a drink of water, she obliged and volunteered to "go the extra measure" and water his camels too -- all ten of them. This was not an easy task as the average camel can drink up to 40 gallons of water. The messenger asked for God to show him the person he was supposed to meet, and Rebekah, on this ordinary day, through a servant's heart, was the answer to his prayer, and found her place in history and in the lineage of Christ. On your ordinary day, are you an answer to a prayer, or a hindrance to the work of the Lord? May our ordinary days find us as servants, willing to be a blessing to others.

Seeking Him <><  
Erik Hinchey