

Washington County Sheriff's Office

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

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"Take the time to prevent a crime"

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Statistics for September

Aggravated Assault	3
Assault (Simple)	10
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	10
Credit Card Fraud	3
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	29
Driving Under the Influence	3
Drug/Narcotic Violations	9
Drunkenness	5
Impersonation	3
Arson	1
Larceny (all other)	42
Liquor Law Violations	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2
Shoplifting	15
Trespass	6
All Other Offenses	103
Total Offenses	244

Total Arrest	Total Warrants
Adult- 111	Criminal- 415
Juvenile- 9	Civil- 1,888

SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

With the long winter days and nights we have to take extra measures to stay warm. Many of us either have a fireplace or kerosene heaters that we use for the warmth. These months are deadly months for fires in our homes.

When using one of these means to heat please make sure that you take the precautions that will keep you and your family safe. Make sure your chimney is clean, that nothing flammable is near the heat source, and that your children and pets don't accidentally come into contact with that heat source.

I hope you all have a Merry Christmas!

If you have a question or concern, please contact our office.

Sheriff Fred Newman

Monthly Meeting Schedule

12-02	BURSON CORNER (1 st Monday) <i>Goodson Kinderhook FD</i>	6:00 PM
12-03	HIGH POINT (1 st Tuesday) <i>High Point Elementary School</i>	7:00 PM
12-05	MENDOTA (1 st Thursday) <i>Mendota Community Center</i>	7:00 PM
12-10	Holston Greendale (2 nd Tuesday) <i>Greendale Elementary</i>	7:00 PM
12-12	TAYLORS VALLEY (2 nd Thursday) <i>Taylor's Valley Community Center</i>	7:00 PM
12-17	HIGHLANDER PARK/Exit 10 (3 rd Tuesday) <i>Noonkester Field Park *Cancelled until March 2014</i>	7:00 PM
12-19	ZION COMMUNITY (3 rd Thursday) <i>Zion Church *Cancelled</i>	7:00 PM
12-24	HAYTERS GAP (4 th Tuesday)* <i>Cancelled</i> <i>Hayters Gap Community Center</i>	10:30 AM
12-24	POOR VALLEY/HAYTERS GAP EVENING (4 th Tuesday) * <i>Cancelled</i> <i>Valley View Assembly of God Church</i>	7:00 PM
12-26	KONNAROCK (4 th Thursday)* <i>Cancelled</i> <i>Konnarock Community Center</i>	7:00 PM

Quarterly Meeting Schedule

12-02	CLAYMAN VALLEY <i>Goodson Kinderhook FD</i>	7:00 PM
12-03	EAGLE RIDGE <i>High Point Elementary School</i>	7:00 PM
12-10	CROWEVILLE/ GLADE SPRING <i>Glade Spring Senior Center</i>	7:00 PM
12-12	QUAIL RIDGE /WORTHINGTON WAY <i>Ely Residence</i>	7:00 PM
12-16	MELVIN HILLS/OAK HILL ESTATES <i>Pleasant View Methodist * Cancelled</i>	7:00 PM
12-17	LOWRY HILLS <i>Noonkester Field Park</i>	7:00 PM
12-19	RAMBLEWOOD/WIDENER'S VALLEY <i>Zion Church</i>	7:00 PM
12-23	OAKWOOD DRIVE <i>McDaniel Residence.</i>	7:00 PM
01-09	GATE CITY HWY <i>Three Springs Methodist Church</i>	7:00 PM
01-14	WOODLAND HILLS <i>Woodland Hills Christian Church</i>	7:00 PM

Fire Prevention for your home

In recent studies, house fires have been on the rise. American homes suffer an unwanted fire approximately every 10 seconds. Fires and burns cause around 4,000 deaths and 20,000 injuries a year. With that being said, every 60 seconds they suffer a fire serious enough to call the fire department. Most importantly, in 2011 the state of Virginia suffered from 20,220 fires with 359 civilian fire injuries, and 43 civilian fire deaths. Property loss and damage was totaled in at \$226,726,762.

During the winter months, our homes are more susceptible to fires than any other time of the year. As fireplaces, wood stoves, space heaters, candles, and electric blankets are used you will be surprised to learn how easy it is to reduce the risk of a fire in your home. In order to help keep your family and property safe from a potential fire, we are providing you with some safety information that will help you decide what you must do to protect your family from fire.

Smoke alarms save lives

- ❖ **Install** smoke alarms outside every bedroom as well as in the bedroom. The reason for this is while a closed bedroom door may provide protection from smoke on the other side; it will also prevent smoke from reaching a smoke alarm inside the bedroom. Everyone must keep in mind that the cause of deaths due to house fires is more likely due to inhaling the toxic gases and carbon monoxide that a fire gives off and not the actual fire itself. The smoke and toxins will reach you and your smoke detectors more rapidly than the fire. Smoke alarms should be placed on every floor in a multi-story home.
- ❖ **Test** smoke alarms at least once a month to ensure they are working properly.
- ❖ **Replace** batteries- This should be done at least once a year, some people like to do this with the time change in the fall.
- ❖ **Use** alarms that are equipped with flashing lights and high pitched alarms for children and adults who may have hearing impairments.

- ❖ **Check** electrical cords. Replace any cords that are frayed, worn, or damaged. Have any outlets replaced that you think may be damaged or not working properly.
- ❖ **Clean and inspect** fireplaces and chimneys once a year. Keep your kitchen stove clean and clear from debris that may catch fire. Do not lay oven mitts or anything flammable on a stove top.
- ❖ **Escape Planning**-Plan an escape that should be practiced every six months. Make sure everyone knows at least two exits out of every room, and that windows and doors are easily accessible. **NEVER** stay inside of a structure that may be in danger of fire. Make sure everyone gets out safely! If you fear your home may be in danger please exit the residence taking a phone with you so that you may call 911. If you are on vacation or visiting friends and relatives the most important question to ask first is the address just in case of a fire. Things to be knowledgeable of when calling 911 are: Address, How many people are in the structure? Did everyone get out safely? Are there any pets? Are there any combustibles inside such as solids, liquids, or gases? Are there any vehicles parked or housed next to the structure? Knowing this information is pertinent for the responding fire and rescue agencies.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

A couple of Sunday's 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.

In Peace<><

Erik Hinchey
WCSO Chaplain