

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 March

Aggravated Assault	1
Assault (Simple)	13
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	10
Credit Card Fraud	5
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	13
Driving Under the Influence	4
Drug/Narcotic Violations	20
Drunkenness	5
Impersonation	6
Arson	0
Larceny (all other)	27
Liquor Law Violations	2
Motor Vehicle Theft	0
Shoplifting	17
Trespass	1
All Other Offenses	94
Total Offenses	218

Total Arrest	Total Warrants
Adult- 134	Criminal- 331
Juvenile- 2	Civil- 1,544



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SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

At times we see things that are out of the ordinary and we aren't sure whether we need to report it to law enforcement. It's better to report those out of the ordinary or suspicious activities than not, it may help solve a crime or even prevent one from happening. Sometimes it is just one of those mysterious things that happen but, if you see repeated behaviors such as a lot of strange traffic to a residence or neighborhood, strangers just hanging out for no reason, strange smells, or strange sounds, it is a good idea to call and report them. It is better to call and be safe than not call and be sorry when you could have done something to help.

Sheriff Fred Newman

Monthly Meeting Schedule

5-1	MENDOTA (1 st Thursday) <i>Mendota Community Center</i>	7:00 PM
5-5	BURSON CORNER (1 st Monday) <i>Goodson Kinderhook FD</i>	7:00 PM
5-6	HIGH POINT (1 st Tuesday) <i>High Point Elementary School</i>	7:00 PM
5-8	TAYLORS VALLEY (2 nd Thursday) <i>Taylor's Valley Community Center</i>	7:00 PM
5-15	ZION COMMUNITY (3 rd Thursday) <i>Zion Church</i>	7:00 PM
5-20	HIGHLANDER PARK/Exit 10 (3 rd Tuesday) <i>Noonkester Field Park</i>	7:00 PM
5-22	KONNAROCK (4 th Thursday) <i>Konnarock Community Center</i>	7:00 PM
5-27	HAYTERS GAP (4 th Tuesday) <i>Hayters Gap Community Center</i>	10:30 AM
5-27	POOR VALLEY/HAYTERS GAP EVENING (4 th Tuesday) <i>Valley View Assembly of God Church</i>	7:00 PM

Quarterly Meeting Schedule

6-2	CLAYMAN VALLEY <i>Goodson Kinderhook FD</i>	7:00 PM
6-9	CROWEVILLE/ GLADE SPRING <i>Glade Spring Senior Center</i>	7:00 PM
6-10	HOLSTON GREENDALE <i>Greendale Elementary</i>	7:00 PM
6-12	QUAIL RIDGE /WORTHINGTON WAY <i>Ely Residence</i>	7:00 PM
6-17	LOWRY HILLS <i>Noonkester Field Park</i>	7:00 PM
6-19	RAMBLEWOOD/WIDENER'S VALLEY <i>Zion Church</i>	7:00 PM
6-23	OAKWOOD DRIVE <i>McDaniel Residence.</i>	7:00 PM
6-23	MELVIN HILLS/OAK HILL ESTATES <i>Pleasant View Methodist</i>	7:00 PM
7-10	GATE CITY HWY <i>Three Springs Methodist Church</i>	7:00 PM
7-8	WOODLAND HILLS <i>Woodland Hills Christian Church</i>	7:00 PM



Neighborhood Watch

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If a criminal looked like a criminal, no one would have any trouble spotting him/her. For over three decades, one of the cornerstones of Neighborhood Watch has been the reporting of suspicious activities and individuals to the police. Over the years, citizen volunteers have stopped countless crimes and saved lives by becoming actively involved in protecting their communities through Neighborhood Watch. As the additional “eyes and ears” of law enforcement, Block Captains and their volunteers can help to reduce crime, improve safety and increase the quality of neighborhood life by knowing what to report and how to report it. Now more than ever, with Neighborhood Watch’s new emphasis on crime and terrorism awareness, citizens are needed to come forward and provide valuable information. Remember: don’t be shy – your job is simply to report, and law enforcement will take your call seriously and check out the situation. What you see and report may be invaluable and may save lives.

WHAT IS A SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY?

Sometimes it can be confusing about what to report and when to report it.

What exactly is a suspicious activity?

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES ARE. . .

Suspicious activities can refer to incidents, events, individuals, or any activity that seems unusual or out of place.

Common suspicious activities include:

- A stranger loitering in your neighborhood
- A vehicle cruising the streets repeatedly
- Someone peering into cars or windows
- A high volume of traffic going to and coming from a home on a daily basis
- Someone loitering around schools, parks or secluded areas
- Strange odors coming from a house or building
- Open or broken doors and windows at a closed business or unoccupied residence
- Someone tampering with electrical, gas or sewer systems without an identifiable company vehicle or uniform
- Sounds of breaking glass; gunshots; screaming or fighting
- Strangers removing license plates or loading valuables into vehicles from a residence, even if the moving truck looks legitimate

Remember: a quick and accurate description of events, vehicles, and persons can make all the difference in apprehending a potential criminal. Any type of activity or circumstance that seems unusual should be reported.

Here’s a list of items you can describe when providing a suspect’s description:

To assist law enforcers in responding to your request:

Person

- Gender
- Race
- Age
- Height and weight
- Hair color and style
- Complexion
- Speech
- Scars
- General appearance
- Clothing

Hair (color-cut)	Hat (color-type)
Eyes (color)	Tie
Glasses	Coat
Tattoos	Shirt
Complexion	Trousers
Scars/marks	Face
Weapon type right or left hand	Age
Sex	Height
Weight	Shoes
Auto (license-make-color)	Direction of escape

Vehicles

- Make (Ford, Chevrolet, Honda)
- Model (Escort, Impala, pickup truck)
- Year
- Color
- License plate number and state
- Bumper stickers, damage or dents, lettering
- Direction of travel (“east on Main Street”)
- Occupants (“one male and one female, high school age”)



CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

Neighborhood Watch groups typically focus on observation and awareness as a means of preventing crime

The divine "scheme of things," as Christianity understands it, is at once extremely elastic and extremely rigid. It is elastic, in that it includes a large measure of liberty for the creature; it is rigid in that it includes the proviso that, however created beings choose to behave, they must accept responsibility of their own actions and endure the consequences.

Dorothy L. Sayer,

[Dorothy L. Sayer: A Rage for Life.](#)

Our purpose is not to “get people into trouble” but rather to improve the quality of life for those around us and reducing crime rate in the areas we call home. So by reporting crimes and/or suspicious activity we are not “snitching” or “tattle tailing”, we are taking responsibility for the things that we have been given charge of and holding those around us accountable to the same standards that we set for ourselves.

Food for thought<><
Erik Hinchey
WCSC Chaplain