

Washington County Sheriff's Office

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter



Fred Newman, Sheriff

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"Take the Time to Prevent a Crime"

Captain Blake Andis

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

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Statistics for February

ASSAULT (SIMPLE)	18
BURGLARY/BREAKING & ENTERING	10
CREDITCARD FRAUD	13
DESTRUCTION/DAMAGE/VANDALISM	14
DRUG/NARCOTIC VIOLATIONS	10
DRUNKENNESS	6
DUI	3
EXTORTION	1
FALSE PRETENSES/SWINDLE/CONFIDENCE	3
IMPERSONATION	3
KIDNAPPING	4
LARCENY (ALL OTHER)	40
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	4
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	5
RUNAWAY	1
SHOPLIFTING	8
ALL OTHER OFFENSES	77
TOTAL OFFENSES	220
TOTAL ARRESTS	100 ADULTS 4 JUVENILE
TOTAL WARRANTS	1647 CIVIL 353 CRIMINAL

Sheriff's Message

Court Security is often not thought about when you mention law enforcement. The court security at the Washington County Court House is maintained by deputies employed through the sheriff's office. Their responsibilities are many. They are responsible for maintaining a safe environment for everyone in the courthouse both the public and court officials. The court house is a very large space with many floors; there are security cameras in many locations, including court rooms, doors, hallways and stairwells, which are monitored continually. There is only one door that everyone comes through and you are required to walk through a metal detector to check for weapons. You will also be asked to empty pockets and to put purses, key's, etc. on a scanner to be scanned. **NO** weapons, cell phones, cameras, electronic equipment, etc. will be allowed in the building. These items cannot be left with court security; you will be required to return the items to your vehicle. These rules are in place to provide the safest environment possible for everyone. If you have any questions or concerns please contact our office. **Sheriff Fred Newman**

MONTHLY MEETINGS

04-02	BURSON CORNER	7PM
	Goodson-Kinderhook Fire Department	
04-05	MENDOTA/Mendota Community Center	7:30 PM
04-24	HAYTERS GAP	10:30AM
	Hayter's Gap Community Center	
04-03	HIGH POINT	7PM
	High Point Elementary School	
04-17	HIGHLANDER PARK	7PM
	Noonkester Field Park	
04-26	KONNAROCK	7PM
	Konnarock Community Center	
04-19	ZION COMMUNITY	7PM
	Zion Church	
05-10	WORTHINGTON WAY	7PM
	Worthington Way Road	

QUARTERLY MEETINGS

06 -04	CLAYMAN VALLEY	7PM
	Goodson Kinderhook Fire Department	
06-05	EAGLE RIDGE/ High Point ES	7PM
06-14	QUAIL RIDGE/Ely Residence	
06-11	CROWEVILLE /GLADE SPRING	7PM
06-12	HAYTERS GAP EVENING GROUP	7PM
	Clinch Mountain Fire Dept.	
06-21	RAMBLEWOOD/WIDENER'S	7PM
	VALLEY/ Zion Church	
06-19	MELVIN HILLS/ OAK HILL ESTATES	7PM
	Pleasant View Methodist Church	
06-20	EVERGREEN HILLS/LOWRY HILLS	7PM
	Noonkester Field Park	
04-10	WOODLAND HILLS	
	Woodland Hills Christian Church	7PM
04-12	GATE CITY HIGHWAY	7PM
	Three Springs Methodist	

COURT SECURITY

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Chances are if you have been to the Washington County Courthouse you have noticed deputies at the door asking you to empty your pockets and come through the metal detector. These deputies are part of the Washington County Sheriff's Office and are known as Court Security. A court security officer maintains safety and security within and around the local court house. They maintain a peaceful, controlled environment within the building, and keep watch for firearms, explosives and other dangers; they are also responsible for building security. The deputies are the eyes and ears of the court house with hundreds of people going through the door every day. Cameras are around the courthouse, in the hallways, stairways, and courtrooms and around the building so the deputies can see what is going on, who is coming and who is going. Not only do they rely on cameras, they also rely on metal detectors and other devices to spot weapons or contraband on visitors or prisoners entering the building. Court security officers are also known as bailiffs they do more than man the front door. In the state court systems, county sheriffs' offices are responsible for providing bailiff services to the courts within their jurisdiction. Bailiffs are law enforcement officers whose job is to maintain peace and order in the courts. As officers of the court, bailiffs usually work in groups of two or more, performing a variety of tasks. They inspect courtrooms for security and cleanliness before court sessions begin. It is the duty of the bailiffs to call the court to order and announce the entry of the judge. During court the bailiffs call defendants and witnesses to the stand so they can testify. When necessary, bailiffs warn people who are disturbing court procedures, and sometimes they have to physically remove unruly people from courtrooms. Bailiffs work under the supervision of judges or court administrators, performing any errands or tasks that are required by the court. Upon the request of judges, bailiffs may summon attorneys to the judge's chambers. They might maintain court documents and exhibits during trials. They also deliver court files, court minutes, and law books to judges or other court personnel. Bailiffs are responsible for the security of juries throughout court trials. They must prevent jurors from talking about a trial with the public or anyone else. Bailiffs escort juries between courtrooms and jury rooms as well as stand guard outside the jury rooms. In addition, bailiffs attend to the jurors' needs, such as relaying their requests or questions to the judges. Bailiffs also escort prisoners in and out of the courtroom. They also do transports. Their job requires them to stand or sit for long periods of time, while being alert and watchful at all times. Bailiffs interact with many people from diverse backgrounds on a daily basis. They sometimes handle individuals who are in highly emotional states such as being angry, unhappy, or upset. The courthouse is the one place that fights or even worse could take place, most people are not happy about coming to court but when it involves a divorce or a custody matter emotions can run high. The bailiffs have to be ready for anything to happen

at any time. Their job requires them to stand or sit for long periods of time, while being alert and watchful at all times with three courts going on a daily bases. A lot have changes have been made to the courthouse when it comes to security before you could go in any door now there is one way in and one way out. Security is maintained at all times and alarms will sound if any doors are opened to the outside.

There was a total of forty seven thousand three hundred thirty-five (47,335) court cases heard last year in 2011. From January through December 2011 there was a total of eighty seven thousand seven (87,007) people that came through the front doors at the courthouse in 2011. The bailiffs conducted a total of one hundred and twelve (112) local transports and forty-three (43) transports out of area in 2011.

When you go to the courthouse please remember no weapons are allowed this includes knives, scissors, or sharp objects. Cell phones, iPods, cameras, radios, headphones, or any electronic devices are not allowed in the courthouse at all. Deputies will not hold these items for you ,they will send you back to your car. Not only do people go to the courthouse for court they also go to look up deeds, wills, pay fines and get a marriage license. Many people come in the courthouse to see the Tiffany window and to see the intricate brick sculptures in the entrance wall that depict the wars throughout the American History, and honor the military personnel who serve our country. The Washington County Courthouse is one of the oldest courthouses' in the state of Virginia. It was built in 1858 and stands under the protection and renovation rules of the National Historic Preservation Society.

Chaplain's Corner

Speaking of Life...

The victim of a head-on car wreck lay in a coma on the brink of death. Before the family was allowed to see the young man, the intensive care unit head nurse me them. "He doesn't look good, but don't let that influence what you say. If you walk in there and say negative things like, 'He looks terrible. He's not going to make it,' you will influence him to give up his fight for life. Say positive things, like, 'I love you. Hang in there! We're with you!' Your words can influence his will to live and to keep on fighting. Guard your mouth, and be very careful what you say."

Proverbs 18:21

***The tongue has the power of life and death,
and those who love it will eat its fruit.***

Our words have the power of life and death. Develop the habit of speaking life into others. Avoid the poison of harsh words and rumors.

Seeking Still<><
Erik Hinchey
Chaplain WCSO