

# Washington County Sheriff's Office

## Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Sheriff Fred Newman  
276-676-6000  
276-669-7134  
Toll Free 1-888-461-0414



Captain Gary Coleman  
Lieutenant Greg Hogston  
Deputy Erik Hinchey  
Neighborhood Watch Coordinator's  
Neighborhoodwatch@washso.org

*"Take the time to prevent a crime"*

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 11

November, 2013

### Statistics for September

Aggravated Assault	1
Assault (Simple)	17
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	9
Credit Card Fraud	1
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	15
Driving Under the Influence	8
Drug/Narcotic Violations	26
Drunkenness	7
Impersonation	2
Arson	2
Larceny ( all other )	34
Liquor Law Violations	3
Motor Vehicle Theft	1
Shoplifting	26
Trespass	2
All Other Offenses	94
<b>Total Offenses</b>	<b>248</b>

<b>Total Arrest</b>	<b>Total Warrants</b>
Adult- 147	Criminal- 372
Juvenile- 11	Civil- 1,786

### SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

The season is fast approaching for some serious shopping to begin. We all know during the months of November and December people are looking for special gifts for their family and friends. Did you know that while you are looking for that perfect gift, someone is looking for the perfect person to steal from and it could be you?

During the coming months we ask that you take extra precautions when you are out shopping, buying on line, or just out browsing for that gift. This is the time of year for car breaks, stolen purses, stolen identity or credit cards, and also an increase in breaking and entering of residence.

We hope you have a wonderful holiday season.

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

*Sheriff Fred Newman*

### Monthly Meeting Schedule

11-04	BURSON CORNER (1 <sup>st</sup> Monday) <i>Goodson Kinderhook FD</i>	7:00 PM
11-05	HIGH POINT (1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday) <i>High Point Elementary School</i>	7:00 PM
11-07	MENDOTA (1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday) <i>Mendota Community Center</i>	7:00 PM
11-12	Holston Greendale (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday) <i>Greendale Elementary</i>	7:00 PM
11-14	TAYLORS VALLEY (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday) <i>Taylor's Valley Community Center</i>	7:00 PM
11-21	ZION COMMUNITY (3 <sup>RD</sup> Thursday) <i>Zion Church</i>	7:00 PM
11-26	HAYTERS GAP (4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday) <i>Hayters Gap Community Center</i>	10:30 AM
11-26	POOR VALLEY/HAYTERS GAP EVENING (4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday) <i>Valley View Assembly of God Church</i>	7:00 PM
11-28	KONNAROCK (4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday)* <b>Cancelled</b> <i>Konnarock Community Center</i>	7:00 PM
03-18	HIGHLANDER PARK/Exit 10 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday) <i>Noonkester Field Park</i> * <b>Cancelled until March 2014</b>	7:00 PM

### Quarterly Meeting Schedule

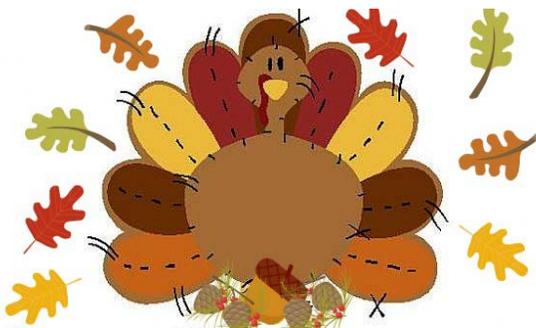
12-02	CLAYMAN VALLEY <i>Goodson Kinderhook FD</i>	7:00 PM
12-03	EAGLE RIDGE <i>High Point Elementary School</i>	7:00 PM
12-09	CROWEVILLE/ GLADE SPRING <i>Glade Spring Senior Center</i>	7:00 PM
12-10	WOODLAND HILLS <i>Woodland Hills Christian Church</i>	7:00 PM
12-12	GATE CITY HWY <i>Three Springs Methodist Church</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</i>	7:00 PM
12-16	OAKWOOD DRIVE <i>McDaniel Residence</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

### Holiday Shopping Safety

If you are getting ready to hit the retail stores for a little Holiday shopping or black Friday madness, you should know how to keep yourself safe! You will be thrust into retail stores with millions of people all focused on finding the perfect gifts, and not focused on protecting their self from criminals. Criminals will be out in full force during the Holiday season looking for easy targets. Common tactics for seasonal criminals are looking in car windows for anything of value, stealing items from the beds of pickup trucks, shoulder surfing for identity theft, and a simple but highly common theft is getting your purse or wallet stolen from a shopping cart. One of the number one crime prevention tools is vigilance. By appearing confident, maintaining situational awareness, using good common sense and reporting anything out of the ordinary, you are preventing potential and future crimes.

### Shopping online safety checklist

- Use credit cards not debit cards when possible. Credit cards offer greater protection.
- Designate one credit card for online purchases, or use a pre-paid card.
- Secure cell phones and back them up regularly. Enable data encryption and antivirus apps. Use password and inactivity time locks.
- Don't reveal private financial data over shared wireless access points such as coffee shops.
- Never give credit card information over the phone unless you initiated the call or trust the company.
- Never link a bank account to an online pay service.
- Protect your computer with the latest browser, antivirus, anti-malware, and personal firewall protection and update regularly.
- Shop on secure sites that display "https" or a padlock in your browser address bar.
- Be aware of "phishing" e-mail scams that include website links advertising incredible deals.



### Department store safety checklist

- Remember to limit amounts of cash you carry. Use debit or credit cards to make your purchases. Also keep a copy of your credit card company phone numbers handy in case your cards are stolen or misused.
- Try to avoid shopping alone. Shop in numbers; take a friend or family member with you.
- Be sure to park in areas where the lighting is adequate.
- Be aware of your surroundings. If something seems out of place or strange, do not hesitate to notify the police.
- Do not leave your purse in a buggy while you shop. This is a simple but very common theft.
- Do not leave items such as MP3 Players, iPods, cell phones, tablets, portable DVD players, GPS systems, or any form of money in plain view in your vehicle.
- Do not leave empty boxes from Christmas gifts in your front yard to be picked up. This just advertises what you have purchased.
- Place purchased items in your car's trunk so they are not readily visible.
- In addition to requesting extra police patrols for your house and participating in Neighborhood Watch, keep some lights on inside and outside of the house when you are away. An area with adequate lighting is less tempting to a criminal.
- If you have the misfortune of becoming a victim of a crime, try to remember as much as you can about any possible suspects. Vehicle descriptions, tag numbers, clothing descriptions and physical characteristics are helpful to police investigating a crime.

---

### CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Some things that appear dangerous are actually much less hazardous than their safer-looking alternative. Commercial airline travel, for instance, is 30 times safer than transportation by car. It may not seem that way to the person who would rather fight rush hour traffic on the ground than ride a solitary Boeing 747 at 35,000 feet. But out of 5 million scheduled commercial flights in 1982, only 5 resulted in fatal accidents. Being carried by tons of metal thrust through the air by huge jet engines is actually safer than being pulled along in an 8-cylinder machine that never leaves the ground. *Our Daily Bread*.

This time of the year our office always emphasizes safety, this year is no exception. As you busily go from one event to another over the next several months purpose to be safety minded. Be shopping safe, driving safe, and cyber safe. This will ensure happy Holidays.

In peace I will both lie down and sleep,  
For You alone, O LORD, make me to dwell in safety. Psalm 4:8

In Peace<><  
Erik Hinchey  
WCSO Chaplain