

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 August

ASSAULT (SIMPLE)	18
BURGLARY/BREAKING & ENTERING	20
COUNTERFEITING/FORGERY	31
CREDITCARD FRAUD	5
DESTRUCTION/DAMAGE/VANDALISM	26
DRUG/NARCOTIC VIOLATIONS	11
DRUNKENNESS	13
FALSE PRETENSES/SWINDLE/CONFIDENCE	38
FAMILY OFFENSES (NONVIOLENT)	15
IMPERSONATION	5
INTIMIDATION	2
LARCENY (ALL OTHER)	57
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	2
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	4
RUNAWAY	1
SHOPLIFTING	18
ALL OTHER OFFENSES	96
TOTAL OFFENSES	336
TOTAL ARRESTS	223 ADULTS 7 JUVENILE
TOTAL WARRANTS	1796 CIVIL 475 CRIMINAL

Sheriff's Message

Fall is officially here and as we head into the house for cooler weather this is a good time to take note of the security of our homes.

As we began weatherproofing our homes for the upcoming cold months now is time to make sure our homes are safe and secure. Make sure all our windows and doors close securely, add dead bolts, update our alarm systems, and clean up around our houses, so there are no blind spots or fire hazards.

It is also time to check fire alarms and to make sure chimney's are in good working order. There are many things we can do around our homes to make them a secure place to live.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact our office. **Sheriff Fred Newman**

MONTHLY MEETINGS

10-03	BURSON CORNER Goodson-Kinderhook Fire Department	7PM
10-04	HIGH POINT High Point Elementary School	7PM
10-11	WOODLAND HILLS Woodland Hills Christian Church 16173 Elementary Drive	7PM
10-13	GATE CITY HIGHWAY Three Springs Methodist	7PM
10-18	HIGHLANDER PARK Noonkester Field Park	7PM
10-20	ZION COMMUNITY Zion Church	7PM
10-25	HAYTERS GAP Hayter's Gap Community Center	10:30AM
10-27	KONNAROCK Konarock Community Center	7PM
10-20	ZION COMMUNITY Zion Church	7PM

QUARTERLY MEETINGS

12-01	MENDOTA/Mendota Community Center	7PM
12-05	CLAYMAN VALLEY Goodson Kinderhook Fire Department	7PM
12-06	EAGLE RIDGE/ High Point ES	7PM
12-08	QUAIL RIDGE/	7PM
12-12	CROWEVILLE /GLADE SPRING	7PM
01-13	HAYTERS GAP EVENING GROUP Clinch Mountain Fire Dept.	7PM
12-15	RAMBLEWOOD/WIDENER'S VALLEY/ Zion Church	7PM
March 2012	MELVIN HILLS /OAK HILL ESTATES/ WYNDALE COMMUNITY Pleasant View Methodist Church	7PM
12-20	EVERGREEN HILLS/LOWRY HILLS Noonkester Field Park	7PM
12-26	GREEN SPRINGS/CLEVELAND/ HARBOR LIGHT COMMUNITY Cleveland Community Center	7PM
2012	WORTHINGTON WAY Worthington Way Road	7PM

HOME PROTECTION

HOME PROTECTION

In a world filled with risk and peril, the one place where we feel safe is our home. Our home is our sanctuary and our castle. It's the one place where we control who comes and goes, and who gets close to us and our loved ones. However, most people have a tendency to take the safety of their home for granted. They tend to feel a false sense of security and therefore neglect basic precautions and safety measures. It isn't until their home has been burglarized that they begin to take security seriously. Residential burglaries occur mostly during the day, when people are at work, but can also happen at night under cover of darkness. Although an experienced and determined burglar could be nearly impossible to stop, precautions can be taken to keep your home a target, and difficult to break into. The following tips will help to reduce your risk by making your home uninviting to potential burglars. Consider installing a surveillance system in addition to an alarm. Many surveillance systems can be monitored via remote access. Use the internet to see a live feed of the interior or exterior of your home. This serves two functions; it allows you to monitor your home while you're away and it records anything that happens, making it easier for police to identify possible suspect's. A typical burglar seeks three things; an unoccupied house, an easy entry point and a quick escape. Homes with large shrubs or trees to provide cover are an obvious target. A property with dark areas to hide, and houses that are unlit inside are appealing to burglars too. Burglars will also peer through windows to look for anything worth stealing and they'll check for unlocked doors or flimsy door latches. Ample exterior lighting is crucial. The front and rear of the house should be adequately illuminated. The use of wall lights, flood lights, pathway lighting and step lights will make your home uninviting to potential burglars. Interior lighting is just as important as the exterior. Interior lights should be set on timers to look and feel as if someone is home. Kitchen, living room and bedroom lights will make your house appear occupied. Also, the flickering lights of a television or the sound of a radio can act as a powerful deterrent. Remove or trim bushes, trees and shrubs near doors and windows. Make sure all possible entry points have a clear and unobstructed view from the street. All exterior doors should be constructed with metal or solid wood, not hollow core, and install dead bolt locks. Use a broom handle or metal rod to prevent sliders and windows from being forced open. A small picket fence or shrubs surrounding the perimeter of your front yard can be a big deterrent. An easy getaway is essential for a burglar, so anything that impedes his escape may deter him from targeting your home. Don't leave any tools out in the yard like shovels, rakes, etc; these can be used to break a window to gain entry. Don't leave a ladder in the backyard unless it's secured with a chain and lock. A burglar will use it to access the second story windows. Never leave a spare key lying around. Burglars know about these hiding places, instead leave it with a trusted friend or neighbor.

Expensive items like laptops, widescreen televisions and gaming systems should never be visible through a window why advertise your expensive belongings? All expensive valuables should be marked with either an invisible ink pen or with some type of engraving device. This will make it easier for law enforcement to identify your belongings if the thief is eventually caught. Also, make sure you have some type of homeowners or renters insurance and keep an up-to date inventory of valuable items and documentation to prove their value. This will save time and headache when you make a claim to your insurance company. Thieves aren't just looking for electronics to sell; they are looking for information that can be used to steal your identity. Any documents that contain personal information like social security numbers, driver license number, etc should be kept in a secure location like a safe or locked cabinet. Burglar proofing your home doesn't have to involve major renovations and expense. Simple strategies like making your house appear occupied, eliminating hiding places and remembering to lock all doors and windows can decrease risks dramatically, at minimal cost. Remember, burglars are looking for quick and easy access, so putting an obstacle in their way is likely to deter them. Don't take the safety of your home for granted, take some basic precautions to keep your home and family safe. One last reminder, do not post messages or updates on social media sites like Facebook, Twitter or MySpace, implying or saying that you will be out of town and don't include your address in your profile. You don't want to advertise your house is empty.

Chaplain's Corner

When we consider the condition of the world today consider this, had Adam and Eve retained their original state, they never would have died. But Eve and then Adam yielded to the serpent's temptation, and death came into the world. Before that moment, they were in a beautiful, pristine state. They existed on a level far above the present condition of the human race. It is difficult to imagine what man was like then by viewing him as he is now. It would require something like trying to reconstruct the original version of an aircraft from its wreckage. If we knew nothing of flying, we would hardly suspect that it had once soared above the earth. The material would be the same; the capability of flight, however, would be lost. We look around the world, the community, and our neighborhoods and wonder how we have gotten to where we are today. When we keep our eyes focused on the Lord, and the things above. Then our perspective will be different.

“But my eyes are fixed on you, Sovereign LORD; in you I take refuge—do not give me over to death.” Psalm 141:8

Seeking Still<><
 Erik Hinchey
 WCSO Chaplain