

Washington County Sheriff's Office

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

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"Take the time to prevent a crime"

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 04

April, 2014

Statistics for February

Aggravated Assault	3
Assault (Simple)	18
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	6
Credit Card Fraud	2
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	8
Driving Under the Influence	3
Drug/Narcotic Violations	17
Drunkenness	0
Impersonation	6
Arson	0
Larceny (all other)	24
Liquor Law Violations	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	3
Shoplifting	10
Trespass	1
All Other Offenses	99
Total Offenses	200

Total Arrest	Total Warrants
Adult- 122	Criminal- 419
Juvenile- 6	Civil- 1,578

SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

Many people each year get their vehicles entered and items stolen from inside. It is a nationwide problem but it also occurs in our neighborhoods.

This is a quick and easy way to steal items, because most of the time the vehicle is unlocked. It usually occurs in your own driveway, so get in the habit of locking your vehicles.

Occasionally, it occurs in public places and that is usually because items are laying within plain sight, so when you get out of your vehicle make sure you hide, purses, cell phones, computers, GPS, iPods, etc., and lock your vehicles.

Sheriff Fred Newman

Monthly Meeting Schedule

4-1	HIGH POINT (1 st Tuesday) <i>High Point Elementary School</i>	7:00 PM
4-3	MENDOTA (1 st Thursday) <i>Mendota Community Center</i>	7:00 PM
4-7	BURSON CORNER (1 st Monday) <i>Goodson Kinderhook FD</i>	6:00 PM
4-10	TAYLORS VALLEY (2 nd Thursday) <i>Taylor's Valley Community Center</i>	7:00 PM
4-15	HIGHLANDER PARK/Exit 10 (3 rd Tuesday) <i>Noonkester Field Park</i>	7:00 PM
4-17	ZION COMMUNITY (3 RD Thursday) <i>Zion Church</i>	7:00 PM
4-22	HAYTERS GAP (4 th Tuesday) <i>Hayters Gap Community Center</i>	10:30 AM
4-22	POOR VALLEY/HAYTERS GAP EVENING (4 th Tuesday) <i>Valley View Assembly of God Church</i>	7:00 PM
4-24	KONNAROCK (4 th Thursday) <i>Konnarock Community Center</i>	7:00 PM

Quarterly Meeting Schedule

4-8	WOODLAND HILLS <i>Woodland Hills Christian Church</i>	7:00 PM
4-10	GATE CITY HWY <i>Three Springs Methodist Church</i>	7:00 PM
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

Lock It or Lose It

Neighborhood Watch

Volume 14, Issue 04

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The Washington County Sheriff's Office would like to remind residents to lock their vehicles at all at times. Through "Lock it or lose it" we would like to put out strong reminders to the residents of Washington County the importance of locking your vehicles to protect your property. Knowing the motivations of the criminally-minded person who may want to steal your car or its contents is important in preparing your defenses for such an attack.

The primary reason a person would steal a car or its contents for personal gain. In many cases, cars are stolen by professional thieves who then sell the vehicles to "chop shops" that dismantle the car and sell it for parts. Others may steal a car to try to sell it. Finally, there are those who steal a car for kicks and a joy ride.

Vehicles are often broken into for things inside, such as a cell phone, briefcase or anything else in view. High priced car radios are a hot item. These things may be sold, but often they are for personal use by the thief or traded for drugs.

Before leaving your parked car, take the following precautions to reduce the possibility of having it stolen or broken into:

- If you have the ability to do so, store your car in a closed and locked garage.
- Always remove the keys, roll up the windows, and lock the car. Any valuable items which can be removed should be taken into the house. If valuables must be left in the car, **KEEP THEM OUT OF SIGHT**. Mount tape decks, CB radios, car phones, etc., inconspicuously. Whenever possible, use mountings that allow you to take the equipment with you. Be sure to remove automatic garage door openers from the car, as this could give thieves easy access to your house.
- If your car is stored in a carport or parked near your house, leave your exterior lights on (front and back) throughout the night. Consider replacing the light fixture closest to your car with a motion detector unit. The light will be off routinely, but will come on if the car is approached.

Since spring is here and warm weather approaches, here are some places to be mindful of.

- Virginia Creeper Trail parking areas
- Convenience stores
- Grocery Store
- General Retail stores
- Parks including ball fields
- Parking Garages
- Hospitals
- Doctor Offices
- Workplace
- Residence

Again theft from a motor vehicle is an opportunistic crime and it can be prevented. Keeping your community safe starts with you! LOCK IT or LOSE IT!



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Henry David Thoreau once stated the following, "I am amused to see from my window here how busily a man has divided and staked off his domain. God must smile at his puny fences running hither and thither everywhere of the land". This statement reminds me that we as the created tend to put so much, and often too much, emphasis on our possessions and the things of this temporary realm.

We are challenged in Colossians 3:2 to *throw aside the things of the world, and to set our mind on things above*. Like many other things on this side of eternity, that is "easier said than done". We are given the responsibility of handling our finances, our households, our personalities, our perceptions, and those of our children. And when someone comes into the picture to interrupt that attempt at "living right" it can be terribly discouraging. It was told to me years ago, "A lock is just there to keep an honest man, honest". So even though our attempts to *fence in* our compilation of trinkets and gadgets may be futile, look at it as though we are helping to keep others from staying down the wrong path and doing the best with what we have been entrusted.

**Be God's
Erik Hinchey <><
WCSO Chaplain**