Washington County Sheriff's Office

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

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"Take the Time to Prevent a Crime"

Volume 9, Issue 6 June 2009

Statistics for April

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT		3
ASSAULT (SIMPLE)		17
BURGLARY/BREAKING & ENTERING		18
COUNTERFEITING/FORGERY		2
CREDIT CARD FRAUD		5
DESTRUCTION/DAMAGE/VANDALISM		26
DUI		1
DRUG/NARCOTIC VIOLATIONS		16
DRUNKENNESS		5
FALSE PRETENSE		3
INTIMIDATION		3
LARCENY (ALL OTHER)		46
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT		3
RUNAWAY		3
SHOPLIFTING		14
TRESPASS OF REAL PROPERTY		4
WEAPON OFFENSES		7
ALL OTHER OFFENSES		90
TOTAL OFFENSES		**266**
TOTAL ARRESTS	**130** ADULTS	**26** JUVENILE
TOTAL WARRANTS	**2591** CIVIL	**305** CRIMINAL

SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

This month's neighborhood watch topic is about the mobile data systems this agency has been using approximately three years. Each patrol deputy has a unit installed in their vehicle. By using these units, several things can be accomplished. The units can access several different programs, including Sheriff Pak (for crime reporting), Mobile Pak-CAD (dispatching), VCIN/NCIC, office email and documents, and a mapping system. Having ready access to these programs assists the deputy by being more proficient in performing their job responsibilities

Our office has also installed AVL (automatic vehicle location receivers) to assist our dispatchers and deputies by showing the location of the patrol vehicle at any given time. Deputy and civilian safety is enhanced with this modern piece of technology.

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

Monthly Meeting Schedule

06-01	BURSONS CORNER Goodson-Kinderhook Fire Department	7PM
06-23	HAYTERS GAP Hayter's Gap Community Center	10:30AM
06-02	HIGH POINT/ High Point E. S.	7PM
06-16	HIGHLANDER PARK Noonkester Field Park	7PM
06-25	KONNAROCK Konnarock Community Center	7PM
06-15	MELVIN HILLS Pleasant View Methodist Church	7PM
06-18	ZION COMMUNITY/Zion Church	7PM

Quarterly Meeting Schedule

06-01	CLAYMAN VALLEY Goodson Kinderhook Fire Department	7PM
06-08	CROWEVILLE /GLADE SPRING 110 Town Square, Glade Spring	7PM
06-16	EVERGREEN HILLS/LOWRY HILLS Noonkester Field Park	7PM
06-02	EAGLE RIDGE/ High Point ES	7PM
06-09	GREENFIELD MOBILE PARK Greenfield Trailer Park	7PM
06-09	Hayter's Gap Evening Group Clinch Mountain Fire Dept	7PM
06-22	GREEN SPRINGS/CLEVELAND/ HARBOR LIGHT COMMUNITY Cleveland Community Center	7PM
06-04	MENDOTA/Mendota Community Center	7PM
06-11	QUAIL RIDGE/Ely Residence	7PM
06-18	RAMBLEWOOD/WIDENER'S VALLEY/ Zion Church	7PM
06-15	WYNDALE COMMUNITY Pleasant View Methodist Church	7PM
09-12	WORTHINGTON WAY Worthington Way Road	5PM

Reminder: If schools have been closed due to weather, contact your coordinator for last minute changes on your meeting.

Meeting Topic

Mobile Data Systems

Neighborhood Watch

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Benefits of Mobile Computing

The degree of benefit a department achieves from mobile computing technology depends considerably on which hardware, software, and accompanying technologies are implemented.

Yet even with a very basic system, the benefits can be enormous.

Below are brief descriptions of primary benefits generally attained when law enforcement agencies deploy a typical system, which would include mobile communications (with dispatch, the ability to query the National Crime Information Center [NCIC], and local messaging), and field data reporting (incident, accident, and field contact).

Reduced Radio Congestion

The use of computers for queries, dispatch, sending messages, and doing checks cuts down on voice traffic up to 40 percent, opening up voice channels for emergencies.

Easier Resource Management, Allocation, and Supervision

Through the use of mobile messaging technology combined with a CAD system, supervisors can know what call their units are assigned to, revise assignments on the fly, and override a dispatch assignment for more efficient use of resources. They can also see in advance when staffing at a scene is likely to be insufficient. Mobile data communications (MDC) technology that allows officers to access police databases may help warn an officer if he has encountered a potentially dangerous situation. When automated vehicle location (AVL) technology helps pinpoint vehicle locations, it helps the dispatcher or dispatch system direct the closest possible resource to a scene. AVL software can also locate an exact location of a vehicle of a distressed or unresponsive officer, thereby allowing aid to be dispatched to his/her location.

Law enforcement agencies, fire and EMS agencies thrive on information—they need it to respond to emergencies, anticipate what they'll encounter when they arrive on-scene, and to help predict incident trends and patterns. Before computers, information was gathered by officers in the field, transmitted to others via paper notes, reports and other handwritten notations, and then filed in metal cabinets. Now the computer has taken over routine data collection, transmission and distribution at most of America's law enforcement agencies, including transmitting data to mobile units in the field.

Improved Officer Safety

A fundamental objective for mobile computing is to provide the officer with a means of determining if persons are wanted or are otherwise a danger to the officer. High-speed access to local, state, and federal databases provides this capability from the field. Hardware and software used in mobile computing can also provide a function key or other means for the officer to initiate an alarm indicating that the officer needs help without the knowledge of the person endangering the officer.

When the mobile computer is connected via a radio network and an automatic vehicle location (AVL) receiver is added to the vehicle installation, the system can transmit the location of a vehicle to an accuracy of up to 10 meters with differential AVL capabilities. An officer needing help can be located by the dispatcher even without a verbal message defining the officer's location.

Less Elapsed Time for Investigative Response

Several studies have established that the probability of closing a case by arrest decays as time passes. The mobile computing entry of full case data enables the near real-time transmission of the case data to the investigator who is assigned and minimizes any delay of the follow-up investigation.

Chaplains Corner

Recently I have been talking with my son about self-worth. I relayed to him the wisdom has been passed on to me by my father, "if it's worth doing, it's worth doing right", and "doing the best you can do is all that anyone can ask".

The Christian in the Marketplace, Author Bill Hybels says, "Dignity is available to every person in every legitimate profession. The farmer who plows the straight furrow, the accountant whose books balance, the trucker who backs a 40' rig into a narrow loading dock, the teacher who delivers a well-prepared lesson, the carpenter who crafts a piece of furniture, the secretary who types the paper accurately, the mother who tends to her children faithfully. All experience dignity as they commit themselves to their labors. A lot of our self worth comes from our jobs." The scriptures give many examples of Dignity, and integrity. The Old Testament account of Daniel finds a young man being measured against his own conduct.

Daniel 6:4 (NIV)

4 At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent.

Like Daniel, we must be found in the same manner, dignified, honest, upright, and unashamed because we too have done our very best.
WCSO Chaplain

Erik Hinchey <><