

Washington County Sheriff's Office

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Sheriff Fred Newman
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"Take the time to prevent a crime"

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 03

March, 2014

Statistics for January

Aggravated Assault	2
Assault (Simple)	10
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	7
Credit Card Fraud	2
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	13
Driving Under the Influence	0
Drug/Narcotic Violations	2
Drunkenness	4
Impersonation	2
Arson	0
Larceny (all other)	28
Liquor Law Violations	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0
Shoplifting	15
Trespass	2
All Other Offenses	67
Total Offenses	154

Total Arrest	Total Warrants
Adult- 81	Criminal- 271
Juvenile- 5	Civil- 1,863

SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

This month's topic we will be discussing Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC)

With the internet becoming more popular every day, many crimes against children are being committed this way. They are very hard to solve because using the internet you can be anywhere in the world and commit a crime thousands of miles away.

One way law enforcement is fighting back is through the ICAC. Our agency is a member of Southern Virginia ICAC (SOVAICAC) Task Force. We are the host agency for District 7, which are all member agencies from Smyth County to Lee County. The goal of this task force is to protect children and to prosecute offenders.

If you would like more information go to www.sovaicac.org

Sheriff Fred Newman

Monthly Meeting Schedule

- | | | |
|------|--|----------|
| 3-3 | BURSON CORNER (1 st Monday)
<i>Goodson Kinderhook FD</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 3-4 | HIGH POINT (1 st Tuesday)
<i>High Point Elementary School</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 3-6 | MENDOTA (1 st Thursday)
<i>Mendota Community Center</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 3-13 | TAYLORS VALLEY (2 nd Thursday)
<i>Taylor's Valley Community Center</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 3-18 | HIGHLANDER PARK/Exit 10 (3 rd Tuesday)
<i>Noonkester Field Park</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 3-20 | ZION COMMUNITY (3 rd Thursday)
<i>Zion Church</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 3-25 | HAYTERS GAP (4 th Tuesday)
<i>Hayters Gap Community Center</i> | 10:30 AM |
| 3-25 | POOR VALLEY/HAYTERS GAP EVENING (4 th Tuesday)
<i>Valley View Assembly of God Church</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 3-27 | KONNAROCK (4 th Thursday)
<i>Konnarock Community Center</i> | 7:00 PM |

Quarterly Meeting Schedule

- | | | |
|------|---|---------|
| 3-3 | CLAYMAN VALLEY
<i>Goodson Kinderhook FD</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 3-10 | CROWEVILLE/ GLADE SPRING
<i>Glade Spring Senior Center</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 3-11 | HOLSTON GREENDALE
<i>Greendale Elementary</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 3-13 | QUAIL RIDGE /WORTHINGTON WAY
<i>Sheriff's Office</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 3-17 | MELVIN HILLS/OAK HILL ESTATES
<i>Pleasant View Methodist</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 3-18 | LOWRY HILLS
<i>Noonkester Field Park</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 3-20 | RAMBLEWOOD/WIDENER'S VALLEY
<i>Zion Church</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 3-24 | OAKWOOD DRIVE
<i>McDaniel Residence.</i> | 7:00 PM |
| 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 |

Internet Crimes Against Children

Safety Tips for Parents to Help Kids

Knowing how to talk to your children about the possible dangers of the Internet is important to your child's safety. Here are some tips on how to keep your children safe while online.

Open Communication

Talk to your child about what they enjoy doing online. Use real examples of situations that children have gotten into using the Internet.

Rules

Discuss with your children what your family's computer rules are; post them near the computer as a reminder to everyone. Below is a suggestion of rules you may want to consider for your family.

- **Personal Information:** Never give your full name, address, phone number or school name to anyone online until you have asked your parents. Never give away your passwords to anyone but your parents (not even your best friends).
- **Open Communication:** Always tell your parents if you see something that makes you feel uncomfortable or scared. Do not respond to anything online that you believe is wrong or makes you feel uncomfortable, just tell your parents.
- **Sharing:** Never send someone your picture or anything else, unless your parents say it is ok. Never accept anything online, in the mail, or in person, from anyone you have met online.
- **Meeting:** Never meet someone in person that you met online unless your parents say it is ok and they go with you to meet them.
- **Family Rules:** Your family should talk about specific rules for going online. Decide how much time you spend online, sites you can visit and time of day you can be online. Also, decide where the computer will be located in the home.

Statewide Burn Ban

There is a statewide burn ban in effect from now until April. State law prohibits outdoor burning of trash or debris before 4 p.m. If the fire is in, or within 300 feet of woodland, brush, or fields containing dry grass or other flammable materials violators could be fined up to \$500. If an illegal fire escapes, the violator will also be financially liable for the cost of fighting the blaze and any property damage it may cause. If you have a control burn after 4 p.m. please call central dispatch 276-676-6277 and advise them.

**Senior
Detective
J. Blevins**



**Detective
B. Nichols**



Detective J. Blevins & Detective B. Nichols of the Washington County Virginia Sheriff's Office are members of the Southern Virginia Internet Crimes against Children Task Force. If you, or an organization would like to request an Internet Safety Presentation please feel free to call or come by the office. We can provide you with the resources you need & answer any questions that you may have. With extensive knowledge of Internet Crimes & Safety, it is our mission to help you protect your family from being victimized by an online predator.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Children are given as examples of faith in scripture and deserve the focus of our protection and proper instruction that we as parents and adults are given charge.

Jesus referred to children as those to whom belongs the kingdom of heaven. (Matthew 19:14) He rebuked the disciples who attempted to keep children from him and lifted children up as a model for adults who wished to understand the truth. The Apostle Paul instructs us to bring the children up in the "discipline and instruction of the Lord". This is a significant corrective given, most likely, in response to what Paul perceived as abuses of the power and authority of the parental roles. To take advantage of a child in anyway, is directly disobedient to the teachings of the Lord. It was relayed in a sermon I attended recently that "God does not expect us to be perfect. He does expect us to do the very best with what we have". In simpler terms we are to do everything possible and to leave the impossible to the capable hands of the Creator God.

When considering our role as created beings in the image of God, may we all deal with children as precious, as reflections of our character, and as possessors of the Kingdom of Heaven.

In Christ<><
Erik Hinchey
WCSO Chaplain