

Washington County Sheriff's Office

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

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

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Statistics for October

Aggravated Assault	5
Assault (Simple)	12
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	12
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	17
Driving Under the Influence	2
Drug/Narcotic Violations	20
Drunkness	7
False Pretense/Swindle	7
Grand/Petit Larceny	30
Impersonation	1
Motor Vehicle Theft	5
Pornography/Obscene material	7
Shoplifting	11
Theft From Motor Vehicle/Building	4
Weapon Law Violations	6
All Other Offenses	94
Total Offenses	240

Total Arrest	Total Warrants
Adult- 61	Criminal- 288
Juvenile- 2	Civil- 1436

SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

The holiday season is always a special time of year. It is also a time when busy people become careless and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime. We can never be too careful, too prepared or too aware. Please discuss safety precautions with your family and friends.

Be vigilant but don't forget the reason for the season. Make sure to spend quality time with those you love and care for. Take time to lend a helping hand and extend courtesy to your fellow man.

As always, if you have a question or concern, please contact our office.

Sheriff Fred Newman

Monthly Meeting Schedule

- 2nd Mon **WASHINGTON CHAPEL** (NEXT- 01/9/17) **6:00PM**
Washington Chapel United Methodist Church
- 3rd Tue **HIGHLANDER PARK** **7:00 PM**
(NO MEETINGS UNTIL MARCH) Noonkester Field Park
- 4th Tue **HAYTERS GAP** **10:30 AM**
Hayters Gap Community Center
- 4th Thur **KONNAROCK** **7:00 PM**
Konnarock Community Center

Quarterly Meeting Schedule

- 12-01 **MENDOTA** **7:00 PM**
Mendota Community Center
- 12-05 **BURSON CORNER /CLAYMAN VALLEY** **7:00PM**
Goodson Kinderhook Fire Department
- 12-06 **HIGH POINT** **7:00 PM**
High Point Elementary School
- 12-08 **TAYLORS VALLEY** **7:00 PM**
Taylor's Valley Community Center
- 12-08 **QUAIL RIDGE** **7:00 PM**
Ely Residence
- 12-12 **CROWVILLE/ GLADE** **7:00 PM**
Glade Spring Senior Center
- 12-13 **HOLSTON/ GREENDALE** **7:00 PM**
Greendale Elementary
- 12-15 **ZION COMMUNITY** **7:00 PM**
Zion Church
- 12-15 **RAMBLEWOOD/WIDENER'S VALLEY** **7:00 PM**
Zion Church
- 12-19 **MELVIN HILLS/OAK HILL ESTATES** **7:00 PM**
Pleasant View Methodist
- 12-20 **EVERGREEN/LOWRY HILLS** **7:00 PM**
(NO MEETING UNTIL MARCH) Noonkester Field Park
- 12-26 **OAKWOOD DRIVE** **7:00 PM**
***Cancelled Holiday McDaniel Residence.*
- 12 -27 **POOR VALLEY** **7:00 PM**
Valley View Assembly of God Church
- 01-10 **WOODLAND HILLS** **7:00 PM**
Woodland Hills Christian Church
- 01-12 **GATE CITY HWY** **7:00 PM**
Three Springs Methodist Church

***If Washington County Government offices are closed for a Holiday, there will be no neighborhood watch meeting.

December – Holiday Safety

The holiday season is filled with happiness and celebration, but it can also be a time of danger and misfortune. Unfortunately, there are criminals who use the holidays to target victims who may be distracted by the busy season.

All the hustle and bustle going on over the holidays gives thieves what they want, almost as much as an unlocked bank vault, and that is the opportunity to become invisible. By being as commonplace as possible, they can move through big crowds of rushed and distracted people without anyone noticing them. They can **pickpocket** and **shoplift** and by the time their victims realize they have been robbed, they will have no idea who did it. We have listed some helpful pointers below.

How to protect yourself this shopping season:

- Try to shop during the day, but if you do shop at night, **do not** do it alone, take a friend or family member. Remember, there is safety in numbers.
- Pick your parking spot carefully, preferably a well lit area. Make sure you can see others and others can see you.
- Always be aware of your surroundings. Pay attention to who is around you and what is going on.
- Keep packages in trunk area and **always** lock your doors.
- Recognize when you are rushed, distracted and stressed out, and **stay alert** to what is going on around you.
- Have keys in hand when going to your car. Check the back seat and around the car before entering.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Keep cash in your front pocket.
- Be extra careful if you do carry a wallet or purse. They are the prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping areas.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion if you are approached.
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, con-artists may try various methods of distracting you, including working in teams, with the intention of taking your money or belongings.
- Discuss various situations with your children. What will they do if you are separated? What will they do if approached by a stranger? (you may teach them to go to a store clerk or security guard)
- Pay for purchases with a credit card when possible. (Credit cards are generally the safest option because they allow buyers to seek a credit from the issuer if the product isn't delivered or isn't what was ordered. Credit cards may have a limit on the monetary amount you will be responsible for paying.)

- If you discover that a credit card is missing, notify the credit card company as soon as possible. Don't assume that you misplaced it and will find it later.
- Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- If you shop online, make sure you can be home for the deliveries or have a neighbor pickup your packages so they aren't on your doorstep all day.

Safety at home:

- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.
- When leaving home for an extended time, have a neighbor or family member watch your house and pick up your newspapers and mail.
- Indoor and outdoor lights should be on an automatic timer.
- Leave a radio or television on so the house looks and sounds occupied.
- Large displays of holiday gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home.

******December 23 & 26th – Administrative Offices closed**

for the Christmas Holiday

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year !!

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

A recent commercial for the Salvation Army depicted a young girl dropping a coin into the all-too-familiar red bucket. The commercial indicated that the young girl would forget her gifts or the things that she was given but would always remember what she gave. I would encourage you to think about the little things at this time of year. We want so much for our children, our families, and our love ones to have the biggest, best, and brightest. But I challenge you to focus on the little things since they often make the greatest impact. Help your loved ones focus on what we can give as opposed to what we could receive. One of the greatest gifts I ever received was a simple coffee cup. It's used nearly everyday. It brings memories of the presenter, and always carries warmth and comfort. A simple gift that fulfills its purpose on a consistent basis.

Give simply, live simply, and share completely the grace that was shared with us.

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

Merry Christmas,



Master Deputy Erik Hinchey
WCSO Patrol/K9 Unit
Chaplain