



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS



CLACKAMAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Volume 3, Issue 4.....October, November, December 2006

What Neighborhood Watch is: A crime prevention program that encourages Neighbors to get to know each other and their routines so that any out of place activities can be observed and recognized for what they are, then reported and investigated if necessary.

What Neighborhood Watch is not: A program designed for Participants to undertake personal risks to deter crime.

Sheriff's Key Phone Numbers

Emergency:

911

24-hour Non-Emergency:

(503) 655-8211

Business Number:

(503) 655-8218

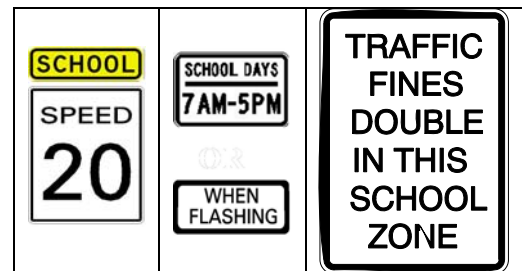
Sheriff's Office Website:

www.clackamas.or.us/sheriff

Back to School Reminders:

School is back in session which means drivers need to be observant of school zones. On July 1, 2006 a new school zone law took effect.

You will now see one of followings signs in school zones. Under the School Speed sign you will see either "School Days 7am - 5pm" or "when (lights are) flashing." Not only do you need to slow down to protect students, but traffic fines are also doubled in school zones.



The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office Citizen Volunteer Auxiliary/Neighborhood Watch Program publishes the NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS quarterly. To learn more about volunteering for the Sheriff's Office, go to www.1-800-Volunteer.org and look up "Crime/legal" in the Issue area drop down box, with zip code 97045.

This newsletter can be found online at the Sheriff's Office Website, www.co.clackamas.or.us/sheriff. If you need additional copies you may call the Neighborhood Watch News Info Line at (503) 353-4444.

To receive further information or to join the Neighborhood Watch Program contact:

Community Service Officer Tom Solano
Crime Prevention Unit
(503) 353-4441
crimeprevention@co.clackamas.or.us

Driver safety isn't the only important message for back to school. Have you talked to your child about their safety going to and from school? It is safer to walk in pairs then by yourself. Also, they should never accept a ride from a stranger.

Did you know the juvenile crime rate spikes between 3pm and 6pm? When kids get home from school if they do not have anything to do they often look for unhealthy or unsafe activities. Talk to your school about after school activities they may offer.

Is your child 15 to 21 years old and have an interest in law enforcement? Look for more Cadet information on page three.

Summer Time Wrap Up



This summer was full of events that the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office crime prevention unit attended. In July we participated in the Kiwanis' Fun Run at Wilsonville Memorial Park. There were 60 participants in 2005, and this year there were more than 150 runners. Along with the crime prevention unit, Lieutenant Dixon Andrews and School Resource Officer Jim Keen from the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office Wilsonville Police Department attended as well as members of the Sheriff's Office SWAT team and cadets program.

August 1, 2006 was National Night Out and the crime prevention unit, marine unit and HAZMAT unit all attended the neighborhood party in Overland Park on SE Drew St. There was a great turnout from neighbors at this event, and it was great for the Sheriff's Office to meet with all of you! The Sheriff's Office also attended events with the Overland Park Drug Coalition, as well as events in the cities of Wilsonville and Canby.

The final and largest event of the summer was Safety Street at the Clackamas County Fair. Safety Street was comprised of several emergency service organizations, including Clackamas County 911, Canby Police, American Medical Response (AMR), several fire agencies and the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office.

The goal of Safety Street was to provide children and adults with a fun way to learn about traffic safety. Children ages 4 to 10 years old were able to drive pedal cars on a miniature street. There were five stations set up intended to teach "drivers" about cross walks, railroads, school zones and stop signs. To add more reality to the event Clackamas County Department of Transportation provided scaled down street signs and street paint. After successful completion of the course drivers were given Safety Street Driver's Licenses.

Sheriff's Cadet Program

The Clackamas County Sheriff's Cadets Program allows young people who are interested in law enforcement careers to learn about law enforcement by observing and assisting full time patrol deputies. Cadets are not police officers and have no peace officer authority, but it is great experience

Cadets attend an academy that teaches them law enforcement techniques. After completion of the academy, cadets may participate in events such as the ones listed below:

Ride -A-longs with patrol deputies
Search and Rescues
Crime Scene Details
Parking and Traffic Control
Safety Fairs

Cadets also have the opportunity to compete in an annual Law Enforcement Challenge against other department's cadet programs. In 2006 the Clackamas County Cadet program took home several individual awards, as well as first place over all.

Applicants are required to be attending high school, possess a high school diploma, a G.E.D., or an equivalent. Members in high school are required to maintain a grade point average of at least 2.0.

Cadets are required to purchase their own uniform and equipment due to the current funding situation at the Sheriff's Office.

For more information on the cadet program please visit our website at www.co.clackamas.or.us/sheriff.



Make sure your Holidays are safe!

It maybe only be October now, but the holidays are just around the corner.

When you start your shopping, try to remember and follow these tips:

- **Shop at places that you are familiar with.**
- **Try to go when it is daylight.**
- **If shopping at night, park in a well lit area .**
- **When walking, walk with a purpose and be aware of your surroundings.**
- **Don't carry a purse.** *Get a coat with an inside pocket for your wallet. If you must carry a purse, strap it diagonally across your body.*
- **Don't shop alone.** *Go with your family or a friend. You are less likely to be assaulted.*
- **Do not keep unnecessary items in your car.**
- **Make one trip to your car – don't drop your merchandise in your car after each store.** *Crooks will watch you drop off items in your car. Crooks often wait in parking lots and as soon as you walk away they will break-in.*
- **Guard your receipts!** *Put your receipts in your wallet, purse or pocket – not in the bag. Keep your credit card in a specific place in your wallet. Replace it each time you use it.*

Safety is also important at home during this time of year.

- **If you have a Christmas tree make sure you keep it watered!**
- **Burning candles should be put out before going to bed or leaving the house.**
- **Do not leave gifts in plain view when they are in your home.**
- **Do not leave all the opened boxes outside at the same time.** *Leaving boxes for the garbage hauler lets crooks know exactly what's inside your house. A box for a new TV or a computer tells them that you have them inside your house, and it may be an invitation to be burglarized.*

Clackamas County Sheriff's Office Levy #3-246

The Clackamas County Sheriff's Levy is a proposed funding source for the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, and will appear on the November 7, 2006 Ballot. The proposed levy is a five-year rate property tax. By law, the money raised by this measure must be used exclusively for the law enforcement purposes stated in the Ballot Title.

Passage of This Measure Would Mean Five Years of More Jail Space, More Sheriff's Deputies on Patrol, and Targeted Enforcement for Methamphetamine Related Crimes.

It would provide funds to re-open jail beds, restore and supplement the number of Sheriff's patrol deputies, and adequately fund a targeted program to combat methamphetamine abuse and related criminal activity.

Questions and Answers about the proposed levy

Question: What is the Current Funding for the Sheriff's Office?

Answer: The Sheriff's Office is currently funded solely by the General County permanent tax rate. The growth in tax revenues is not keeping pace with the rising costs of funding public safety services, including the costs of keeping inmates in jail without early release, employing patrol deputies in sufficient numbers to respond promptly to citizen calls and targeting methamphetamine related crime with a specialized enforcement program.

Question: What is meant by "Re-open Jail beds"?

Answer: Since 2002, 84 existing jail beds in the Clackamas County Jail have sat unused for lack of funding while crowding has caused early release of many prisoners. Inadequate space at the County Jail resulted in the release of over 3,900 prisoners in 2005. [SOURCE: Clackamas County Jail Booking Data, Calendar Year (CY) 2005.] Passage of this measure would fund the use of existing jail beds, creating more jail space for prisoners and curtailing early releases of prisoners caused by overcrowding.

Question: Are more deputies being asked for?

Answer: Over the past ten years Clackamas County's population has grown by 15 percent and calls for service have increased each year, but the number of Sheriff's patrol deputies has declined. There were more deputies in 2001 than there are today. When the number of Sheriff's patrol deputies does not keep pace with population growth, call response times are slower and sections of the county cannot be patrolled as thoroughly. Passage of this measure would fund approximately 19 new Sheriff's patrol deputies for Clackamas County.

Question: How will methamphetamine related crimes be reduced?

Answer: Passage of this measure would adequately fund an enforcement program designed to combat methamphetamine related crime, such as use, manufacturing, property crimes, identity theft, child abuse and child neglect.

Question: How much will this cost me??

Answer: This measure would cost 24.8 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value in additional taxes. The cost would be approximately \$4.13 per month, or \$49.60 per year, on a home assessed at \$200,000.

The proposed rate would raise an estimated: \$7,819,355 in 2007-08; \$8,171,226 in 2008-09; \$8,538,931 in 2009-10; \$8,923,183 in 2010-11; and \$9,324,726 in 2011-12.