

The Waite Hill Police Beat

April 2012

Hello to all residents, I will be communicating a newsletter each month so each of you are up to date with what is going on within the police department as well as with the community. I will include information reference criminal activity, hopefully none that is taking place here, but activity that may be happening within our surrounding communities.

We are still talking about having a monthly get together; **Coffee with the Cops**, this would allow the community to interact more with the officers. This would take place at the police department or other areas that would suffice the topic for the month. This get together would be an informal, open forum type of communication. Topics may include; but not limited to: upcoming events, personal protection, home safe programs, CPR-AED classes, Flu-shot programs, or just talking about a community issue, etc.

As of February, we have hired a new full-time officer; Mike Sevel, who has completed our training program and is on his own. We have hired a new part-time officer; Erik Quintillo, and he started on April 17th in the training program. Erik is an auxiliary officer for Geneva-on-the-Lake and he has an extensive background of computer engineering. We plan on hiring one more part-time officer in the near future. Both officers will be stopping by to introduce themselves to each of you.

I wanted to repeat the following concern from the March letter along with another concern that is a continual problem for citizens in all communities. "Our surrounding communities are experiencing home invasions are far as burglaries. With the soaring precious metal prices, the criminals are getting desperate and they are breaking into homes more than ever. I am not trying to alarm any of you; however, I feel it is very important to note this. We did have one burglary here on Eagle Road and we were unable to determine who the person(s) was that made entry into the residence. The person(s) stole multiple jewelry pieces as well as other items. Besides the home invasion, the burglars are doing extensive damage to the residences as well. For example, they are just kicking in doors or breaking sliding glass doors to make entry. While they are in the residence, they are ransacking each room without any regard for anything. If I may make a suggestion, each you might want to think about an alarm system if you don't already have one. I personally put one in my home as well as in my parent's home. When you are gathering information on a system, keep in mind that you may want to get a wireless system. A hard wire system is monitored through your phone lines. An exposed system can be cut at the phone terminal box on your house. The alarm will still sound however, the monitoring company may not get the signal due to the phone lines being cut.

The other concern is the increasing amount of scams that are out there. Communities are battling multiple types of scams, for example: telephone scams, credit card scams, website scams, mail and newspaper scams, as well as, people impersonating utility workers and coming to your residence unannounced. **Be aware as we all know nothing is for free!**

In conclusion, if you have any questions or suggestions please do not hesitate to call or stop by and we will be happy to answer any question or if we do not know the answer we will get the answers and get back with a quick response.

Respectfully submitted, your Chief of Police.....

Keith A. DeWitt