

# The Waite Hill Police Beat

August – October 2016



Our officers continue to obtain signatures for our “Unwanted Visitors” list. The Village offers each resident the opportunity to sign a form that will indicate whether or not they wish to allow uninvited visitors on their property. Residents who sign the form will have their names placed on a list of persons who do not wish to have any uninvited visitors. Those who do not sign the form will be placed on a list of persons who do not object to uninvited visitors coming on to their property for canvassing purposes. This list is issued to persons who wish to canvass Village residents. Those canvassing commercially must register with the Village. Canvassers who wish to speak on non-commercial matters (candidates for political office, ballot issues, religion, etc.) are not required to do so.

Our officers will be participating in the 2016 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Campaign, which starts Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup> and runs through Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Nearly one third of traffic related deaths are caused by impaired driving. This campaign aims to combat impaired driving and increase safety on the roadways.

Deer season is approaching fast and they are already on move throughout the Village. Unfortunately, the deer are not too traffic “savvy” and think they own the roads. So please be extra careful when driving. While such deer-involved crashes can occur anytime, most mishaps happen between the hours of 5 and 10 p.m. and 5 and 8 a.m. because deer are “crepuscular” — meaning that they are most active at dawn and dusk. Defensive driving is the best way to avoid hitting these animals. Be particularly cautious when one deer runs across the road since usually there will be another following.

With some recent storms comes the possibility for power outages. Call 1 888 LIGHTSS or report online at [https://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages\\_help/Report\\_Power\\_Outages.html](https://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages_help/Report_Power_Outages.html). Please keep the dispatchers free to handle emergencies!

**As a reminder, our surrounding communities are experiencing multiple thefts and break-ins, so please be diligent keeping your vehicle and home locked. The best deterrents are alarm systems and well-lit properties. Motion lights seem to help when you have them at the four corners of your home.** A big reason for the increase of this type of criminal activity is related to drug use. Heroin is turning into an epidemic problem and people are becoming very desperate when finding ways to continue their addiction. These individuals are doing whatever it takes to feed the addiction.

Recently we have received complaints regarding possible scams. As always do not provide any personal information over the phone if you suspect you are being scammed. A recent scam targeting the elderly has been making its way through our area. In this scam, a person posing as a “family member” will state that he/she has been arrested and requires bail money by way of prepaid Visa gift cards. They often will use “spoofed” or fake phone numbers that appear to be coming from a jail or a police department. Other scams are still involving IRS calls and being threatening in nature. To prevent yourself from falling victim to this scam, know that the IRS does **NOT**:

Call to demand immediate payment about taxes owed without first sending you notification by mail; Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone; or Threaten to bring in local police or other law enforcement to arrest you for nonpayment.

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If you have any doubts, call the IRS directly at 1-800-829-1040 or if you think you have been scammed, call their helpline at 1-877-908-3360 for advice and guidance.

Please remember, if you notice anything that does not look right or looks suspicious, please contact us. The best way to reach an officer is through the dispatcher at 440-942-1660. If it is an emergency, please call 9-1-1.

**The Waite Hill Village Police Department, as always, looks forward to serving the community. Your safety and security is always our concern!**

Respectfully submitted,

Keith A. DeWitt, Chief of Police