

The Waite Hill Police Beat



May – July 2016

Hello to all residents.

Now that spring is here, we have to remember to take care with pedestrian traffic. Our Village has had an increase of bicyclists and joggers over the years. There have been a few incidents with bicycle crashes and near misses of pedestrians versus vehicles. We are trying to be diligent with the speeding vehicles on our roadways, contact us with any areas of concern that you may have.

We have had a few changes within the police department; Officer Joshua East, who has started on March 16, was promoted to full-time. Also, we have hired an additional officer; Edward Sedmak, who has been on cover shift allowing more visibility and coverage for our residents and Village. Officer Brian Beaumier has been promoted to Sergeant which solidifies our department back to fully staffed.

On May 30th at 9:00 a.m. there is going to be a Memorial Day Tribute to veterans at our Village Cemetery. Council and one of our Village residents, a career veteran, wanted to continue this event. Officer Mike Walsh is assisting with the planning of this event. He is contacting last year's speakers and is attempting to contact Village residents who served in the armed forces. You may contact Officer Walsh by e-mail mwalsh@waitehilloh.gov or by phone at 440-942-5015 if you served our country or have any other questions. This year we wanted to open the invitation to all residents as we honor our veterans.



Both new officers will be circulating our "Unwanted Visitors" list for your signatures. This is a perfect opportunity for them to introduce themselves to you and update our current lists. 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

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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.

I know, I have been very redundant about the increase with residents receiving scam letters in the mail, via email, and by telephone. If you are the recipient of anything suspicious, please do not hesitate to contact the police department for help verifying the legitimacy of any communications. Again, one of the biggest scams is the threatening IRS calls, please see below.

IRS Imposter Scam I would like to remind everyone of the on-going IRS scam that the police department has received numerous calls about. This scam is a phone scam where the caller claims to be an IRS employee informing you that you owe taxes and threaten to arrest or deport you if you don't pay. Be aware because this scam is very sophisticated in that the scammer may:

- Know all or part of your Social Security number
- Rig the caller ID to make it look like the call is from the IRS
- Tell you to put the money on a prepaid debit card and tell them the card number

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
- Threaten to bring in local police or other law enforcement to arrest you for nonpayment.

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