

The Waite Hill Police Beat

March 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 within the community. I will include information referencing criminal activity, hopefully none of which is taking place here, but activity that may be happening within our surrounding communities.

We are 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 is currently in our training program. He is adapting well with our orientation of community policing as well as with all other aspects of being a police officer here in the Village. We plan on hiring two other part-time officers in the near future.

Our surrounding communities are experiencing home invasions and 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. We attempted to track the items through the pawn shops and gold dealers with negative results. We have not stopped investigating. However, there are very lenient rules that the pawn shops and gold dealers have to abide by which makes it difficult to track the items. We have a good idea who committed the burglary but we have insufficient evidence at this time to charge the individuals.

Besides the home invasion, the burglars are doing extensive damage to the residences as well. For example, they are 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 of you might want to think about an alarm system if you do not 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 wired 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 but the monitoring company may not get the signal due to the phone lines being cut.

In conclusion, if you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to call or stop by. We will be happy to answer any question or if we do not know the answer, we will get the answers and respond promptly.

Respectfully submitted, your Chief of Police,

Keith A. DeWitt