

The Waite Hill Police Beat

December – March 2017



Hello to all residents.

As the snow starts flying again, we need to remember to slow down and take extra time to get to our destinations. The Service Department does a great job keeping our roads open, but they need our assistance. If you have someone plowing your driveway, please remind them not to push snow across the road. When snow is plowed across the roads, driving and plowing hazards can be created when the Village endures a high volume of snow.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Mike Walsh has resigned from our department to take a position with Lake County Metro-parks. We are currently looking to fill that position. Officers Edward Sedmak and Joshua East are on their own and doing very well.

SCAM ALERT!

This year we have seen an increase in 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. There also have been scams involving threatening IRS calls reference being sued if you do not cooperate with the phone caller. 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. We have also received complaints for credit card fraud. This has resulted from individuals attempting to assume identity of residents and opening credit card accounts with either a fake name and our resident's addresses or our resident's names and an address somewhere else.

Residents have reported phone calls with a person claiming to be from Microsoft Computer Company asking for computer and personal bank information to fix their computer and pay them money. Remember to never give out personal information to phone solicitors. If anyone receives a call or shows up at your door like this please call our department at the non-emergency number 440-942-1660 or 9-1-1 if you feel it is necessary.

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.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Recently, we investigated a pedestrian versus vehicle crash on Markell Road. The resident was walking her dog and she was struck by the vehicle while she was well off the roadway and unfortunately her dog suffered severe injuries. Fortunately, this resident was obeying pedestrian traffic laws in which saved her life. I would like to remind all residents who walk on our roadways to be remain diligent with traffic safety so these types of incidents do not occur. Our officers are continuously monitoring vehicular and pedestrian traffic for safety concerns. If you have any questions or concerns about traffic safety, please contact our department.

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SERVICE DEPARTMENT

As with the police department, we have had some changes in our service department as far as personnel. If anyone is unaware, Paul deWit has retired after 30 plus years and we have hired two new workers; Cory Shook and Andy Richards. Bob Haynik has been promoted to Service Director. Bob has great leadership skills and a great work ethic and he is looking forward to continue the service to our residents. If you have any questions, you may contact him at 942-2074.

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.

Have a safe new year!

Respectfully submitted,

Keith A. DeWitt, Chief of Police

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