

# The Waite Hill Police Beat

November – February 2019



**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

Deer season is in affect now until February 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 (544-4877) 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.** Again, 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.

We will be working on a Facebook Page for 2019 for the department as another resource for you and the general public. As you well know, social media has certainly played a big part of information sharing over the years. If you have not

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already done so, please forward your e-mail address to Robbi ([rlaps@waitehilloh.gov](mailto:rlaps@waitehilloh.gov)) so we can add you to our list for information. We will not overload you with unnecessary information.

## TRAFFIC SAFETY

I would like to remind all residents who walk on our roadways to be remain diligent with traffic safety. 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.

## Halloween Party

I believe the party was a great success and was enjoyed by all who came. Thanks to all who participated with making it such a great party. If you would like to see any changes or additions, please do not hesitate to contact us.



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!