

GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

April 2008

Home Invasion

With Spring approaching and warmer weather, people tend to come back out of hibernation and enjoy spending more time outdoors. Some of this enjoyment is the Criminals victimizing others. Particularly, home break-ins. This type of crime generally increases as the weather gets warmer. DON'T allow yourself to become a target to this. Start NOW in prevention! Begin a Home Security Checklist (See your Neighborhood Watch Manual).

Check Window Security and locks.

Check Door Security and locks.

Check garage Doors and locks.

Some things to remember:

Do you leave outside lights on? Front and Back?

Will you keep the shrubbery and landscaping at a level where neighbors can see around your home?

Do you ALWAYS lock the doors and secure windows when you leave, even for a short time?

Are ALL you outside leading doors solid wood or metal?

Do you have lock throws that lead at least 1" into the door-frame?

Is your door frame protected by a sufficient strike plate?

Can you and do you lock your garage door?

Have you photographed and record your valuable items?

Are they marked by Operation ID?

How about Fire Safety?

Do you have Fire Alarms throughout your home or only in 1 location?

Do you check your Smoke detectors monthly to be sure they work?

Do you secure items such as matches and lighters from children?

Do you store flammable liquids in a secure area?

If you're not sure of any of the answers to these questions, then you need to refer to your Neighborhood Watch Manual.....

Also with the warmer weather coming, so do Ordinance Complaints. A reminder or awareness of certain common ordinance violations many neighbors complain about. Could this be you violating a City Ordinance and not even knowing it?

SERVICE-PRIDE-INTEGRITY



GARDEN CITY POLICE
COMMUNITY SERVICES

CITY DEPARTMENT
PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY- 911

POLICE 793-1700

DETECTIVE BUREAU 793-1710

CITY HALL 793-1600

21ST DIST. COURT 793-1680

BUILDING DEPT. 793-1650

CITY CLERK 793-1620

LIBRARY 793-1830

MAPLEWOOD CTR. 793-1850

PARKS & REC. 793-1880

BUYING A USED CAR

1 Be cautious about adverts which specify times to phone. Sometimes these phone numbers turn out to be those of a public call box or the houses of friends or acquaintances who are not involved in the sale.

2 When you respond to an advert, don't specify the vehicle that you are interested in. Instead, say, 'I'm calling about the car that you advertised for sale.' The person answering will then have to be honest about whether he has more than one car to sell, in which case he may be a dealer.

3 Never allow the seller to bring the vehicle to you. Always insist on going to where the vehicle is on sale or suggest meeting at your local Police Department to see the vehicle. Anyone who is less than honest will be put off by this.

4 Before you go, make sure that you know how to find the VIN number on the vehicle you are interested in. Remember to match the VIN number on the Title and the vehicle.

5 Look out for signs of casual car dealing, for instance if the person selling the car to you has other vehicles lying around in various states of repair.

6 Don't forget to look out for the signs of a fresh repainting that has not been disclosed. This may show a damaged vehicle that has been repainted.

#7 Do a CarFax report.

8 If you buy from an advertisement, keep a copy of it. Also, try to keep a note of what the person selling the car tells you.

9 Ask to see the registration document. In particular, check how long the car has been in the owner's possession. Be cautious if it has only been in his particular ownership for a short time. If the owner does not have the registration document, ask how long he has had the vehicle. If he has owned it for some time, ask why there is no registration document.

10 Check the registration document for watermarks, typeface, spelling mistakes and overtyping. Irregularities could indicate a forgery.

11 If you buy through auctions, take advantage of any indemnity clauses which will protect you in the event of your buying a stolen vehicle. It will cost a nominal sum, but could save you a lot of money, time and embarrassment.

WATCH BLOCK NEWS

Remember Neighborhood Watch Meetings are beginning soon. The dates will remain the same this year. Meetings are the first Tuesday of the following

months: **March, May, October and December.** Meetings normally are scheduled for 7pm at the Garden City Community Maplewood Center and are usually in the con-

ference room. If you have any questions, please call myself or Nancy Minor in the Detective Bureau. (734-793-1710) D/Sgt. Brian Aure'

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BLOCK / CITY CRIME STATS

March Crime Statistics—Cases Reported

Arson 0	Robbery 2
Breaking & Entering 11	Public Peace 5
Larceny 21	Fraud 11
Stolen Vehicles 4	Drugs 12
Assaults 30	Property Damage 66
Murder 0	

The numbers listed represent statistics for the entire city during the month listed