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The "CAT"

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"MAKE YARMOUTH THE SAFEST COMMUNITY IN THE REGION"

Chief Frank Frederickson

Swan Pond Village Update

Nearly 2 years ago we started Neighborhood Crime Watch in Swan Pond Village. We currently have four block captains: Judy Keith, Sandra Johnson, Barbara Proctor and James Pazakis Sr. On Thursday, April 14, Mike Sahagian Area Captain for South Yarmouth and the block captains hosted an open meeting for residents. This allowed them to meet the block captains and receive the NCW handouts and learn what and how to report as suspicious activity. The block captains collected contact information so we can distribute crime related information to residents. One resident attending, Jill Julin volunteered to become an additional block captain. Thanks to all the residents who participated and especially the block captains. Special thanks to Cathy Hopper of Weston Associates for facilitating the meeting and keeping the community center open late.

Police Officers visiting Block Captains

A suggestion received from the last All Block Captains meeting was to have officers on patrol visit the block captains in their neighborhood. We will be starting to implement this, so don't be surprised if a cruiser stops by. This will help build a connection between the YPD and our Neighborhood Crime Watch blocks. From time to time, the Proactive Anti Crime unit will also be in NCW blocks, we will try to publicize these when they are scheduled. One of the benefits of having an NCW block in your neighborhood. If you know of other neighborhoods that would like to join, let us know.

Personal Safety and Awareness

By Lt Patrick Carty

As the weather gets warmer, we are all apt to be outside more. Exercising, walking, heading to the beach. We may also stay out later, even when it is dark to enjoy the great weather. These tips are not only for the Cape, but other areas you may find yourself visiting. We always must be aware of our surroundings and reminded that in society today things have changed. One of the best things that you can do to improve personal safety is to be aware of your surroundings and put yourself in good situations by avoiding bad ones. Some very simple tips for personal safety:

- Always let someone know where you are going to be and make sure they have your cell number so you can be contacted. Program your cell with 911 ready. Almost all cell phones can be tracked if needed when on.
- Avoid troubled areas and if necessary to go to a questionable area bring someone with you such as a friend or family member. Always remember strength in numbers.
- Walk confidently, make sure to periodically check in all directions. If something looks like trouble it probably is. Take another route.
- If out at night, park in a well lit area and make sure you know where you left your vehicle. If you have a camera on your phone, photograph the space marker or simply write it down. Purchase a key chain flashlight in case of power outage to help guide your way.
- Don't be afraid to take a self defense class or carry mace or pepper spray (must be 18 or over). Obtaining a license to carry firearms is also recommended for personal safety.

These are just a few tips for your safety. Remember, if something doesn't look right, it probably isn't. Please enjoy the warm weather and "BE SAFE".

What are Suspicious Activities

By Paul Greeley, Area Captain for West Yarmouth

If you detect any suspicious activity in your neighborhood, call the Yarmouth Police Department. Do not worry about being embarrassed if your suspicions prove to be unfounded. It is better to think of what could happen if you didn't act.

Examples of Suspicious Activity:

- Door-to-door canvassers in a residential area. Yarmouth requires permits for such activities and you can check on the status of those who show-up in your neighborhood. Political and religious persons do not require permits. If one or more of the subjects goes into the back or side yard the situation is even more suspicious. They could be "casing the house" for a burglary or there may be a burglary in progress.
- People waiting in front of a house where the occupants are absent, or loitering in front of a business establishment which is closed. There may be a burglary or vehicle theft in progress.
- Someone forcing entrance to or tampering with a residence, business, or vehicle. This person is very suspicious under almost any circumstance. There may be a burglary in progress.
- A person running - especially if he or she is carrying something of value. The person may be fleeing the scene of a crime. Recreational runners do not usually carry anything in their arms.
- Person carrying property - may be suspicious depending on the circumstances. For example, if the person is observed at an unusual hour or in an unusual place and if the property is not wrapped as if just purchased, the situation may indicate a crime in progress.

- A person exhibiting unusual mental or physical symptoms. The person may be injured, under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or in some kind of need of medical aid.
- Multiple cars stopping at the same house for very short periods of time. There may be drug transactions taking place.

Thanks to Yarmouth Police Foundation

By Steven Xiarhos Deputy Chief of Police

Leaders of the Yarmouth Police Foundation were very special guests at Roll Call on April 14, 2016 at Yarmouth Police Department Headquarters.

President Bruce Wilson and Vice-President Mike Sahagian met with all of the Police Officers and showed them the new PROTECTIVE RESPONSE PARKA'S that the Foundation is purchasing for each Yarmouth Police Officer at a cost of over $12,000 through a cooperative purchase with our friends at Regency Police Supply in Hyannis.

The Yarmouth Police Foundation, Inc. was established in 2013 by business and civic leaders as an independent, non-profit organization to promote excellence and improve public safety in Yarmouth.

The YPF supports programs designed to help the Yarmouth Police Department keep pace with the rapidly evolving technology, strategies, and training.

The Foundation will provide resources that are not available through other means.

If anyone would like to step forward and become a member of this special group of devoted citizens, or make a donation, please visit www.yarmouthpolicefoundation.org

Thank you Bruce and Mike and everyone involved with the Yarmouth Police Foundation for all that you do for the men and women of the Yarmouth Police Department!

Meet the Block Captains

YP26 Deb's Hill 3, Bob Murray

Bob was born and raised in Belmont and raised his two boys in Lexington. After graduating from Boston University he spent several years in the Army assigned to a top secret fort in the Catoctin Mountains of Maryland. Upon leaving the service he became a stock broker with Dean Witter. After 5 years of a down market Bob decided enough was enough and became a successful salesman in the contract interiors industry for ten years prior to leaving his employer and starting his own firm.

Over the next twenty some odd years that firm expanded into six independent companies within the same industry. After a year and a half of retirement in 2006 Bob was so bored he bought a UPS Store with the intent of selling it in five years, which is what he did. Bob is a volunteer at the Yarmouth Food Pantry, a Board member of the Cape Cod Men's Club and a recent graduate of the Yarmouth Citizen Police Academy which he recommends to all Yarmouth residents. Bob's residence is at Deb's Hill Condominiums in a unit that he visited many times over the years while visiting the couple that were the original owners. Other than travelling off Cape to visit friends, most of the travelling Bob does these days is to Alameda Island and Sarasota visiting his children, their spouses and his five grandchildren. Bob joined NCW in 2014 and feels it adds an additional layer of protection and safety to the community.

SY35 Gen HoI/Witchwood/Long Pond, Mary Cotoia

Mary is a wash a shore of 21 years. Moving to Yarmouth in 1995 as a local area Commercial Banker, Mary quickly became involved in the business community. She served on the Town of Yarmouth's Economic Development Committee, and was a Board member and past president of the Yarmouth area Chamber of Commerce, and is presently a Yarmouth Rotarian. Mary learned about YPCAT in the summer of 2015 at the National Night Out Event sponsored by the Town. Mary joined the Yarmouth Substance Abuse Committee in the fall of 2015.

As a mom of 3 middle school age children Mary is very interested in ensuring the Cape and her town are safe and viable places to live and work and raise a family. So in early 2016 Mary became one of our new block captains and is ready to make a difference with her neighbors and friends as soon as the weather warms. Mary is originally from Stamford,CT and moved to Cape Cod via stints in Manhattan and Boston. Mary is a 23 year banker but has also been involved in her community since arriving on Cape Cod. Organizations she has served with include The United Way, The Cape Cod Foundation, the YMCA, Gosnold, The Yarmouth and Cape Cod Chambers, the Cape Cod Young Professionals, Rotary and others. She values the strength of community and all that can be accomplished by many contributing what they can.

Upcoming Events

All Block Captains Meeting: Our next block captains meeting is coming up on May 11, 2016 (see the calendar on the last page for details). Chief Frederickson will update us on crime statistics and Lt Carty will speak on avoiding SCAMS. This will be open to the public if your block members wish to attend.

Block Captain Recruiting: Over time we lose block captains due to moves out of Yarmouth, health, or other personal reasons. As noted in past issues, we have had success in targeting these blocks for replacements, and we are continuing this effort. Several blocks in South Yarmouth, West Yarmouth and Yarmouth Port will soon be receiving letters in the mail and code red announcements inviting them to a meeting at YPD on May 25. If you know of people who have interest in NCW, let us know and we will invite them to this meeting also.

Annual Town Meeting: The town meeting is coming up on Saturday May 7. View the warrant.

Annual Town Election: The election will be held on Tuesday May 17. See the list of positions.

SAVE THE DATE

Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Date	Time
Drug Take Back Day	Yarmouth Police Department	Wednesday April 30, 2016	All Day
All Block Captains Meeting	Yarmouth Senior Center	Wednesday May 11, 2016	Doors Open at 6:30 Meeting 7:00 PM
NCW Recruiting for blocks needing a block captain	Yarmouth Police Department	Wednesday May 25, 2016	6:30 PM
Town Meeting	Mattacheese Middle School	Saturday May 7, 2016	9:00 AM
Town Election	Various by Precinct	Tuesday May 17, 2016	7:00AM to 8:00 PM

SHARE THE CAT

We ask that all of you forward a copy of the CAT each month to all he neighbors in your block.

The CAT is a newsletter from the Yarmouth Police Community Advisory Team (YPCAT) relating to happenings in the Neighborhood Crime Watch Program and the community.

Do you have an article you would like to see published in the CAT, or an idea for us to include? If so, contact us at cat@yncw.org.

Interested in learning more about, or joining Neighborhood crime watch—use the contact form at www.yncw.org, or call Lt Patrick Carty at 508-775-0445, ext 2116.