

TOSA WATCH

Wauwatosa's Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

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April - June 2014

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TOSA WATCH - Wauwatosa's Neighborhood Watch Newsletter is published quarterly by:

The Wauwatosa Police Department-Community Support Division
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TOSA WATCH provides useful information for citizens who participate in the Wauwatosa Block Watch Program. Reader comments and contributions are always welcome.

Tosa's Night Out 2014

The Wauwatosa Police Department and Wauwatosa's Neighborhood Watch Committee (WNWC) are proud to announce that our 20th annual "Tosa's Night Out" celebration has been scheduled for **Tuesday, August 5, 2014**, at Hart Park.

We are also happy to announce that Froedtert & the Medical College of



Wisconsin will be our 2014 event major sponsor. This will mark their sixth year as our major sponsor and their 17th year as an event sponsor!

Returning this year will be a children's area including games, inflatable rides, a coloring contest, Kid Care ID, and much more. Other scheduled highlights include live music, food and refreshments, safety displays, and health and wellness exhibits.

The ever popular 1.5 mile "Family Flashlight Walk" will wind through the Honey Creek Parkway, lower Harwood area, and Wauwatosa village. The evening is scheduled to conclude with an exciting Bartolotta's fireworks display (weather permitting).

The event is free and everyone is welcome. You may, however, elect to officially register for the Flashlight Walk to receive your commemorative t-shirt, flashlight, and additional sponsored items.

Our 2014 Flashlight Walk registration kickoff is Sunday, May 11, 2014, from 8:00 AM until 11:30 AM at the Hart Park Muellner building, 7300 W. Chestnut Street. The kick off will be in conjunction with the annual Wauwatosa Crime Stoppers' pancake breakfast, "**Pancakes With Mom**" (see accompanying article).

TOSA'S NIGHT OUT

Lighting The Way To A Better Community.

After May 11, you may register or obtain registration forms at the **Little Read Book Store at 7603 W. State Street (telephone 774-2665)** during regular store hours. Watch for additional details in the July-August-September "Tosa Watch" newsletter.



**WAUWATOSA
CRIME
STOPPERS**

771-TOSA

Cash rewards up to \$1,000.

Wauwatosa Police Department

Barry M. Weber - Chief of Police

Community Support Division

*Captain Tim Sharpee
Lieutenant Paul Leist
Sergeant Brad Beckman
Specialist II Don Semega
Officer Mike McDermott
School Officer Joel Kutz
School Officer Tracy Burbach
School Officer Farris Griffin
School Officer Jim Morrill
Administrative Support
Specialist Laura Laurishke*

HARTFEST

**FRIDAY – JUNE 13
SATURDAY – JUNE 14
HART PARK**

Entertainment
5:00 PM - midnight

**Summer is on its way!
If you're interested in
having a neighborhood
block party this
summer, please
remember to call for a
block party permit.
Permits must be
submitted 3 weeks
prior to your party.
For more information
call Gayle at 471-8430,
ext. 5101.**

Technology Isn't So Bad

With the prevalence of social media, web cams and other online tools, our children are more susceptible to child predators and cyberbullying. Don't let the thought of your perceived lack of knowledge with regard to technology scare you. You probably already have most of the battle won...using your common sense and communication skills.

If your “gut” tells you something isn't right, it probably isn't! Go with it and ask more questions, even if they're tough to ask. Don't fall into the trap of thinking: “This kind of thing won't happen to my child, in my home.”

Keep electronic devices in common areas of your home and if you're annoyed by the noise made by one of your child's games or apps, invest in a \$5-\$10 pair of headphones. Take notice if your child spends a lot of time online and starts withdrawing from socializing with peers or with the family.

Communication is the first thing that breaks down in any relationship and tends to cause the most problems. Be open and honest with your kids so you can, in turn, expect the same from them. Let them know you trust them, but that you don't trust others online who might take advantage of them. Inform your children that once they post something online, it will never go away, even if they delete it by using an app like Snapchat, because people can take a screen shot of the image and post it somewhere else on the web.

Free resources like Netsmartz (www.netsmartz.org), run by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, are available and have a wealth of information for you and your children. Software companies make monitoring programs too and remember, it's not spying...it's protecting your most precious asset(s), your kids. Unfortunately, sometimes kids will trick their parents by showing them a “parent-friendly” Facebook page and then have another one that you don't know about. Tell your kids that they **MUST** give you their passwords and that you'll monitor their online activity, and really do it! As parents, it is sometimes tough for us to say “no” to our children, but we need to remember that we are parents first and friends to our children second!

Tosa's Night Out True Blue Sponsors



CITY OF
WAUWATOSA

MEMORIAL DAY
OBSERVANCE

MONDAY, MAY
26, 2014
AT 10:30 AM

LONGFELLOW
MIDDLE SCHOOL
7600 W. NORTH
AVENUE

FEATURING:
THE WAUWATOSA
COMMUNITY
BAND

FEATURED
SPEAKER:
T.B.A.

JOIN US TO
HONOR THOSE
WHO HAVE
PAID THE
ULTIMATE
PRICE FOR THE
FREEDOM THAT
WE ENJOY.

While at Play, Keep Burglars Away

With the long brutal winter comes our wanting to leave the confines of our home and head to a warmer place. We dream of shedding our hats and coats and basking in the sun on a white sandy beach. What we forget about is that burglars have also been cooped up and may be ready to ruin your vacation.

We will never be able to stop the criminal who will stop at nothing to get into your home, but we can deter the other 99% who will move on to an easier target.

Before you leave for vacation follow these few simple steps to target harden your home from those you don't want inside:

- ✓ **Lock your doors:** You would be surprised how many people go on vacation and leave their doors unlocked. We hear, “It was the rear door, I never thought someone would go in the back yard and check the door.” This is the door that should always be locked because it's most likely out of the view of your friends and neighbors.
- ✓ **Close and lock your windows:** The latest trend in home burglaries is the window entry. A burglar will slide up the inner unlocked window after slitting the screen for easy access to your home. Simply locking your window is a deterrent.
- ✓ **Have your newspaper and mail stopped:** A tell-tale sign that you are not home is the stacking of mail and papers on your front porch. If you do not want to place a stop on these items then have a friend or neighbor collect them while you're gone.
- ✓ **Notify your trusted neighbors that you will be away:** Having an extra set of eyes or two on your property while you are gone is a good thing. Your neighbors will be more aware of what is going on around your home and will call the police if they see something that is not right.
- ✓ **Illuminate your home:** Use timers to turn on and off your lighting to give the illusion of movement both in and outside of your home. The movement of light in your house gives the impression that you are home and moving from room to room. A dark house for five straight days is a sign that you are not home.

Our home is our castle without the moats and alligators, but we have the ability to keep our homes secure. Take a few extra minutes to prepare and secure your house before you leave and rest easy while you are away.



File of Life

The File of Life is a magnetic pocket that sticks to one's refrigerator and can be used for any person of any age. The pocket holds a card that contains medical information that is an invaluable resource to emergency medical teams responding to critical, life-threatening situations. The File of Life enables medics to obtain a quick medical history when a patient is unable to offer one. The card will list the patient's name, emergency medical contacts, health insurance information, medical issues, medications, dosages, allergies, recent surgeries, religion, doctor's name, and a health care proxy.

The benefits of the FILE OF LIFE:

- Emergency Responders instantly know medical history.
- Hospital emergency staff can quickly evaluate for drug reactions.
- Patient knows that if they are unconscious, their lifesaving info and contact information is available in a recognizable, easily accessible format.

The Wauwatosa Senior Commission is offering the File of Life Pockets for a \$1 donation. They will be available at the Health Department located at City Hall, Wauwatosa Police Department's Community Support Division and all Wauwatosa Fire Departments. For further information, please call the Health Department at 479-8936.

Medicine Collection Program

The Wauwatosa Police Department recognizes the growing concern surrounding the proper disposal of unused and expired prescriptions and over-the-counter medications.

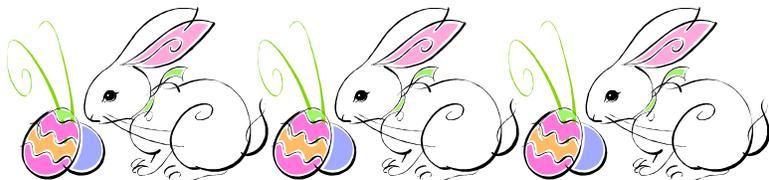
Proper, safe and environmentally conscious disposal of these medications is imperative. In recognition of these standards, and to offer City of Wauwatosa residents a safe, secure solution to disposing of these medications, the Wauwatosa Police Department provides the following program.

The following guidelines must be met in order to accept medications:

Guidelines:

1. Medications will only be accepted from City of Wauwatosa residents (or a family member of a Wauwatosa resident).
2. The person dropping off the medications must provide proper identification issued by the State of Wisconsin or Milwaukee County to verify their identity and residency.
3. Citizens cannot bring in prescriptions for other people unless they are family members.
4. Medications will **ONLY** be accepted Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM, at the Wauwatosa Police Station, 1700 N. 116 St.
5. Any of the following will be accepted:
 - Prescription medication in the original container. All liquid medication **MUST** be in the original container.
 - Loose medication (including prescription medication).
 - Over the counter medications. Please note that natural vitamins and supplements may be discarded in with the trash.
 - Medicinal ointments, creams
 - Sprays, inhalers
 - Pet medications
6. The following will **NOT** be accepted:
 - Biohazard material
 - Needles/sharps
 - Personal care products (shampoo, lotions, soap, toothpaste, etc)
 - Household hazardous waste (paint, pesticides, oil, gas ,etc)

If a person turns in illegal narcotics such as marijuana, this policy does not apply and an investigation will be conducted into the possession of an illegal narcotic.



Volunteers Needed

Crime Stoppers is seeking help with the 12th annual Pancake Breakfast to be held on Sunday, May 11, 2014, from 8:00 AM to 11:30 PM at The Muellner Building at Hart Park (7300 W. Chestnut St.). What a great way for young people to volunteer and get service hours at the same time!

All volunteers will receive a free breakfast ticket. If you register as a volunteer by April 30, you will receive a free breakfast ticket for your mother as well. Tickets will be provided at the event. If you would like to help, please call Officer Don Semega at 471-8430, ext. 5114, or email dsemega@wauwatosa.net.

81st Annual Independence Day Celebration

Wauwatosa's Independence Day celebration is scheduled for Friday, July 4, 2014. This year's theme is “A Monumental Fourth.”

The annual Wauwatosa parade will begin at 9:00 AM with a new travel route. The parade will travel West along North Avenue from North 80th Street to Mayfair Mall.

Family Fun events will be held at Hart Park starting at 4:00 PM with fireworks at 9:15 PM (fireworks rain date – July 5)

Enjoy the Great Outdoors

Wauwatosa has one of the best park and trail systems in the county. Starting at Hwy. 100 and Hampton Avenue, you can walk, bike, or run southeast until you reach the city limits at Jacobus Park. This several-mile trek will take you through the woods, alongside a golf course, next to the Menomonee River, into the Village of Wauwatosa, to Hart Park, and on the Honey Creek Parkway.

The park system with all its amenities is very safe and well maintained, but this does not mean you should let your guard down while using what is offered. Here are a few simple things you can do to be safe while enjoying the FREE trail system:

1. **Wear visible clothing:** Bright colors are not only for the spring flowers and budding trees, they are for you, too. To be seen is as important as being heard. The trail system is used by many athletes on bikes, rollerblades, and scooters, as well as cars in certain areas where the trail meets the road. Your bright colors will allow the others to see you and move away or around you to avoid a collision. During dark hours ALWAYS wear reflective material or have a lighting device on your person.
2. **Carry identification and a cell phone:** These two items are very important to have with you at all times. If you are alone and an emergency happens, you can use your phone to call for help. A dropped 911 cell phone call alerts the police to your general location based on cell tower readings. Once found, your identification will allow the police to quickly notify family members who can assist in your medical history and treatment needed.
3. **Use the buddy system:** Find a family member, friend, or neighbor to exercise with you. Not only does this companionship help the time go by faster, but it is a safety net. If a problem should arise on the trail, you have someone with you to help you out of the woods, administer first aid, or call 911 for help.
4. **Know your surroundings:** Be aware of where you are and who is around you. Again, the parks are very safe, but we do have the occasional person who is looking to cause a problem. If that person knows you can identify him, he is more likely to move on and leave you alone.

During your adventures on the parkway, you will learn that the Wauwatosa Police Department has a uniformed bicycle patrol that travels the parkway and monitors its users and addresses safety concerns.



Now let's get out and enjoy the beautiful weather.



CRIME STOPPERS' PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Wauwatosa Crime Stoppers is hosting its 12th annual **“Pancakes with Mom”** Breakfast on **Sunday, May 11, 2014, from 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM**, at the Hart Park Muellner Building, 7300 W. Chestnut Street. Over 900 people attended last year's event and a great time was had by all.

Enjoy all-you-can-eat hot cakes and sausage and all the breakfast fixings. Last year's guests were excited to find flowers for mom, balloons, games and prizes for the kids. Join McGruff the Crime Dog and the famous Racing Sausages for a fun-filled morning that will benefit The Wauwatosa Crime Stoppers. Event sponsors are **Wauwatosa Neighborhood Watch Committee, WaterStone Bank, C & G Printing, Metcalfe's Market, Starbucks Coffee, Modern Woodmen and PNC Bank.**

Tickets are available at the door on the day of the event at \$7.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children age 3-12, with children age 2 and under free.

**WAUWATOSA CRIME STOPPERS' PANCAKE BREAKFAST
SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2014
TICKET ORDER FORM
(Orders mailed after April 25, 2014, will not be processed.)**

Please list the number of adult and children's tickets you wish to purchase. Children under 2 are free and do not require a ticket.

Tickets will be mailed within 10 days. Make checks payable to Wauwatosa Crime Stoppers. Please include a phone number on your check. Do not send cash.

Return your check and this form to:

**Wauwatosa Crime Stoppers
1700 North 116th Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53226**

_____ ADULT	X \$7.00	\$ _____
_____ CHILD	X \$3.00	\$ _____
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED		\$ _____

If you have any questions, call Specialist II Don Semega at 471-8430, ext. 5114.
