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MedCentral Neighborhood Watch



MedCentral Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- G.A.S.P.
- D.A.R.E.
- Neighborhood Crime Stats
- Health & Safety Fair
- Important Phone Numbers
- Curfew Information

GAMES ADOLESCENCE SHOULDN'T PLAY

Attention Friends & Neighbors

The Richland County Sheriffs Department will be presenting information regarding our area youth and the games that are being played that can leave an individual injured severely or can even lead to death.

Each year, many kids fall under peer pressure to participate in these games and the results can turn deadly.

These games do not involve drugs or alcohol, so it makes the kids feel they are not doing something that can harm them.

While we may have not heard of these topics, it does not mean they have not shown up in our community, it still poses a serious threat to our children's safety. Teens are looking these things up online under websites that should be monitored by the parents.

An article in the St. Petersburg Times on June 24, 2008 By Waveney Ann Moore, Times Staff Writer reported about the death of an 11 year old girl who had started playing one of these games and had recently died. She was found by her 12 year old brother and was pronounced dead on arrival at the medical center.

Our focus during this discussion is to bring awareness to the community and educate people



Neighborhoods working Together

on the dangers of these games and what signs to look for.

Please take an hour out of your day to learn about the threats that are already in our schools and our neighborhoods.

Meeting Date

August 20th
at 7PM

Located in the
**Robert Jones Conference
Room at MedCentral**

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AUGUST 5

Get Connected with your neighbors at St. Lukes Church on Marion Ave at the 5-way light.

DARE Truck and Community Policing Officer will be present
More Information to be announced

National studies and published reports indicate that the abuse of prescription and over-the-counter (OTC) drugs to get high is a growing concern particularly among teens in the United States.

In fact, more young people ages 12-17 abuse prescription drugs than any illicit drug except marijuana—more than cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine combined. Prescription drugs provide benefits when used as directed under the care of a health provider. But when abused, they can be just as dangerous as illicit drugs. Though overall teen drug use is down significantly nationwide in recent years, there are troubling signs that teens view abusing prescription and OTC drugs as safer than using street drugs.

Of even more concern is that many parents may not be addressing the dangers with their teens, though they can have an immediate impact on curbing the supply by cutting off the access to prescription drugs in their own home and by talking to their teen about the risks of drug use.

Many parents are not aware of the dangers of teen prescription drug abuse. Teens say their parents are not discussing these dangers with them, even though research shows that parental disapproval is a powerful way to keep teens from using drugs. And parents are in a unique position to dramatically reduce teen access to prescription drugs because they are found in the home.

To learn more about these issue, or to obtain more information, join us for the Neighborhood Watch meetings and let us know what information you would like to have presented.

Information obtained from:
OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
JANUARY 2008

Prescription for Danger:
A Report on the Troubling Trend of Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drug Abuse Among the Nation's Teens (PDF)
Under the DARE website
<http://www.dare.com/>

PRESCRIPTION FOR DANGER

NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME STATS

We would like to give you a brief update of what is going on in our neighborhoods.

Below you will see a chart that represents the crimes for section 2A that includes our neighborhood watch area.

You will notice that all of partial months are listed due to publication of data and time of article.

	June	Partial up to July 3rd
Aggravated Assault	1	
Breaking and Entering	1	
Burglary	10	2
Forcible Rape	1	
Larceny	17	
Motor Vehicle Theft	1	

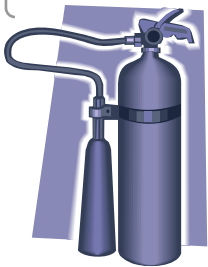
Please take one Wednesday out of the month, visit with your neighbors, and learn what things are happening on your street, around your block, and in your community.

A group of teens have been going through unlocked cars on the East side of our watch area.
Please Keep Your Cars Locked and report suspicious activity.

As you can see from the attached list we have some criminal activities in and around our area.

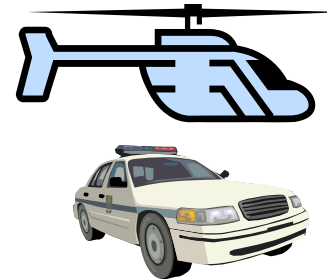
Your neighborhood watch group needs your help in keeping our neighborhoods safe for you and your families. Homeowners and apartment dwellers are equally affected by these crimes; we have a dedicated core group of neighbors who need your assistance in keeping our neighborhood clean, safe and passing out fliers with other information concerning your neighborhoods.

You can call the Police Dept. to locate a 'watch' group in your area then attend a meeting and sign up!



September 6th 3rd annual Health & Safety Fair 11am—1pm

{North East Parking Lot—Look For McGruff}



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

911 Emergencies Only

419/522-1234

419/52-CRIME

Use to report drug dealers, crime suspects, wanted person, past and future crimes

Incidents in which life and/or property is in
Immediate danger

Crimes "in Progress" or that have just occurred

Mansfield Police Department

Report suspicious activity or

crimes that have already occurred

information on joining a neighborhood watch group

24 Hr. Crime Hotline – Strictly Confidential



CURFEW HOURS & EXPLANATIONS

Ages 11 and Under , Must be in by Dark

Ages 12 through 15 , Must be in by 11pm

Ages 16 through 17 , Must be in by Midnight

All children must be with a parent or guardian
if they will be out past the above listed curfew times.