



SW Jones District Neighborhood

On April 16th, 2014 we had a very good attendance with a few new neighbors and visitors. The meeting ran a little longer than expected but due to the amount of information that was given it was well worth the extra time. We always have very good participation asking questions they feel are pertinent to each individual needs. Just some brief information that was given was about websites that are available to the public, i.e. Child Safety Seat Clinics, Prescription Drug Drop Off Sites, Police Explorers to learn about police work, and Police Canine Demonstrations, just to name a few. Officer Kindlarski also spoke about scams in the area regarding contractor fraud since home repair is in season. Advice was to use reputable firms asking for and checking for references.

This month, **Wednesday, May 21, at 5:30pm** we will be having a special presentation from the Crime Prevention Program to promote how to make our homes more beautiful and neighborhood safer. I am anticipating a large turn out since this has been open to the public as well as all other neighborhood groups. Please be sure to arrive early to get a chair. I am anticipating the meeting will be longer than an hour. Officer Kindlarski always makes the meetings enjoyable and entertaining. There is a pop quiz afterwards, NOT!

Just a reminder that there will not be any meeting in June and July, and we will resume again August 20th for our annual picnic. A site has not been decided if we will meet at 3M Park or at the school, weather permitting. A dish will be shared. Once we get closer to the date I will contact those on the list to know what everyone will be bringing. If I remember correctly, there will also be a guest speaker to inform us about Radon.

As a reminder, Thomas Street will be having construction for a skin patch starting in the next few weeks. The construction will take about two weeks, but hopefully this will solve the issue with the potholes for the next few years. With new Chairs in position, we will have a Coordinating Committee that will be moving forward with issues on Thomas Street. I am sure the Wausau Daily Herald will be keeping you in the loop with the progression of the council movements.

There will be a change on Thomas Street in the next few weeks with Thunder Lube moving to their new destination on 17th Avenue. We will be invited to have a tour of the new location, if anyone will be interested, prior to their grand opening. Once Thunder Lube has been vacated, the building will be torn down with a new convenient store opening up, set for September/October. It will be an added addition to the street and flow of traffic. Looks like changes are on the way so look forward to your support.

Questions, please call 715-843-0990

Sherry Abitz
District 10 Alderperson



“The Briefing Sheet”

May 2014 Neighborhood Group Meeting

Prepared by Officer Jon Kindlarski (715) 261-7969

Presentation

- City of Wausau statistics on burglary and property crimes
 - The “Big Picture” how do we make our homes beautiful, and reduce the likelihood of crime
- Information on exterior home beautification and landscaping tips to reduce crime
 - The “Broken Window Theory” and ways we can spruce up the exteriors of our homes
 - Creative landscaping ideas that can also help to reduce crime
- Remember the permits (when needed)
 - City of Wausau-Division of Inspections and Zoning
<http://www.ci.wausau.wi.us/Departments/Inspections/ResidentialPermitRequirements.aspx>
- Question and answer period

Crime Prevention Information

There are a number of ways on-line that you can find information about residential crime prevention programs to include:

- Wausau Police Department Website (lots of great information and a good place to start)
<http://www.ci.wausau.wi.us/Departments/Police.aspx>
- The WI Crime Prevention Practitioners Association Website (also has videos)
<http://www.wicrimeprevention.com/>
- The National Crime Prevention Council
<http://www.ncpc.org/topics/home-and-neighborhood-safety>
- For the kids...
 - McGruff the Crime Dog – Activity Website (good safety tips for kids home by themselves) <http://www.mcgruff.org/#/Advice>

Scams and Crime Alerts

- Connexus Credit Union advised of a potential phishing scam involving automated phone calls presenting as Connexus Credit Union. The automated call contains a message about a card (Credit/debit) being blocked and requests the recipient to enter their card number, PIN and expiration date to reactivate the card.
- It is contractor fraud season. Most of these scams happen in the spring and summer. Be wary of the person who offers to fix your driveway or paint your house because they happen to have “extra” materials from another job site. It may seem like the offer is “too good to be true” or “a limited time only” and this is when you need to be extra suspicious. Use reputable firms and remember it is okay to ask for and to check references.

A Special Warm Weather Safety Tip

Please use extra caution backing your vehicle out of your driveway. With the warm weather, kids (of all ages) are using the sidewalks and can sometimes “disappear” in your vehicle’s blind spots. Check your mirrors, look over your shoulders and back out slowly to prevent accidents.