

# Champion Forest Neighborhood Watch

## Plan for 2008

*Feb 4, 2008*

# Agenda

- The Challenge
- Neighborhood Watch Team
- Vision and Strategy
- Planning Process
- Law Enforcement Support
- Resident-Centered Programs
- Call to Action

# The Challenge

- Crime is an issue in our area
- Law Enforcement Patrols cannot do it alone
- Local Citizen involvement is essential

# Neighborhood Watch Team

## Neighborhood Watch Committee

- Roy Riley, CF Fund President and Committee Liaison
- Rozann Janek, CF Fund Vice President
- Cristy Hayes, CF Fund Secretary
- Bob Jackson, Chair
- Fred Jones
- Jackie Kern
- Joyce Preston

## Constable Patrols

15 Neighborhood Watch Section Leaders

125 Neighborhood Watch Liaisons

## We 140 Need Neighborhood Watch Volunteers

- Recognized community leaders
- Energetic communicators
- Will commit to two training sessions
- Set a good example

# Vision and Strategy

**Vision:** Mobilize Champion Forest residents and law enforcement to reduce crime against their person and property.

**Strategy:** Drive:

- Awareness via word of mouth, email, website, newsletter, hotline
- Knowledge via formal training, alerts, tips, website
- Community via communication, attractive neighborhood
- Involvement via Law Enforcement, Section Leaders, Neighborhood Watch Liaisons, and tangible programs
- Fast Start via community leaders, personal networking, emails, website, creating a “buzz”, Zero Tolerance for Suspicious Persons

**Goals:** Train residents; reduce incidents of crime

- Incidents: 2008 crime incidents below the average of 2005-2007.
- Training: Train 140 people re crimes against person and property

# Planning Process

- Met with Constable Hickman
- Met with neighborhood leaders
- Met with Sheriff Capt. Hitchcock
- Learn from Exemplary Neighborhoods
- Planning Session with Neighborhood Watch Committee, plus Lt. Finley, Capt. Whitton
- Key off of *Neighborhood Watch* program

# Law Enforcement Support

- Constable
  - 3 Patrol Shifts
  - + Neighborhood Watch program planning assistance
  - + Resources added re: CF burglaries
  - + Work with the BARS team
  - + Training
- Sheriff
  - + BARS - Burglary Apprehension Response Squad

# Resident-Centered Programs

## Begin Quickly...

- Contact *everybody*
- Word of Mouth / Email “chain letter”
  - Security Update
  - Enroll: “CF Connection”
  - Volunteer: Neighborhood Watch Liaison
- Communication
  - Push: Alerts, Tips, CF News, CFWC Newsletter
  - Pull: Website
  - “*Buzz*”
- Zero Tolerance for Suspicious Persons
- Signage
- Curb Numbering

## Increase Momentum...

- Train and Develop Liaisons
  - Workshops
  - Role: local, familiar expert
- Focus
  - Solicitors (Winner, Team Builder)
  - Burglary of Motor Vehicles
  - Burglary of Residences
- Operation Identification?
- Neighborhood Watch Certification?
- Continue Broad Communication
- Adapt...

***Awareness > Team Building > Quick Hitters > Education > Community > Increased Momentum***



# Conclusion

Reducing Crime for Champion Forest Residents requires five things:

1. Community commitment
2. Law enforcement commitment
3. Training and communication
4. Diligent and sustained focus by all
5. Teamwork

The times are changing...



**We have a solution!**

 **We need your commitment.**



We need you!

# Neighborhood Watch Liaison Job Description

- Does:
  - Attend formal training classes, two in 2Q08: Home Security; Motor Vehicle Security / Personal Safety (About 1.5 hours each.)
  - Have name published; neighbors comfortable with contacting them
  - Enthusiastically spread crime prevention information *during daily activities*
  - Encourage “neighbor helping neighbor”
  - Stay alert to risky behavior and suspicious activities
  - Set a good example
  - Assist with information flow between residents, Constable patrols, and Neighborhood Watch Committee
- Does not
  - Patrol
  - Act as a vigilante
  - Have any canvassing responsibilities



# Neighborhood Watch Section Leader Job Description

- Does:
  - Everything a Neighborhood Watch Liaison does
  - Assists with recruiting Neighborhood Watch Liaisons, particularly in their Section
  - First to be trained; advises on how to improve training
  - Advises the Neighborhood Watch Committee: by phone and 3-4 meetings per year
  - First point of contact for Security Liaisons in their Section
  - Contact information published in Newsletter and on CF Connection website
  - Assist with information flow between neighbors, Liaisons, Constable patrols, and Neighborhood Watch Committee
- Does not
  - Patrol
  - Act as a vigilante
  - Have any canvassing responsibilities
  - Have any responsibility to train others



# Neighborhood Watch Elements

- Shared responsibility
  - Residents
  - Law Enforcement
- Trained residents
- Neighbor helping neighbor
- Neighborhood communication is key
  - Awareness
  - Education
  - Motivation
- Need sustained leadership
  - Coordinator
  - Liaisons (1:10-15)
  - Frequent meetings / training
- Requires a strong plan
  - Hard to get started
  - Even harder to maintain
  - OK to start small and grow
  - Include trained law enforcement officer
  - Plan should key off of neighborhood crime statistics
- Kick off effort with broad communication campaign
  - Mass communications
  - Personal contact
  - Discuss Crime Data
- Set Clear, Achievable Goals

Note: Neighborhood Watch is not a complete security program as it does not deal with some key issues like BMV, fire safety, weather issues or medical emergencies.

Source: **Neighborhood Watch** A manual for citizens and law enforcement, published by the National Sheriffs' Association

# Neighborhood Watch Programs

- Neighborhood Watch Liaisons / Block Captains
- Home Security Inspections by trained personnel
- Upgrading locks, security hardware, lighting
- Securing valuables
- Securing homes while away
- Neighbors watching home while away
- Operation ID
- Picking up newspapers and flyers
- Effective door and window locks
- Reporting of suspicious vehicles, persons or activities
- Discussing prevention methods at the street level
- Telephone or email alerts re criminal activity in the area
- Meetings on the subject of personal and property security
- Signage: decals, road signs, house numbers
- Good environment / beautification shows neighborhood cohesion
- National Night Out

Source: **Neighborhood Watch** A manual for citizens and law enforcement, published by the National Sheriffs' Association