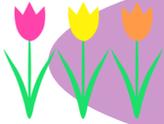


City of Lynchburg Police Department



Neighborhood Watch Newsletter



Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Newsletter Date
April 5, 2016

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For more information
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Crime Prevention Unit
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Partnership Meeting

Thank you to everyone who came out for this years Neighborhood Watch Partnership meeting. There were 32 members in attendance representing 15 NHW groups. Attendees enjoyed hearing from Chief Diaz, and Commonwealth Attorney Michael Doucette.

Lynchburg Night Out Against Crime will take place Monday, September 19th!

Crime Rates Down in 2015!

Overall Crime: (Group A Offenses)

-6.80%

Violent Crime: (Homicide, Assault, Robbery, Sexual Assault)

-7.52%

Property Crime: (Arson, Burglary, All Larceny, Stolen Vehicles)

-10.28%



Crime Prevention - (434) 455-6070

Watch Out for Home Improvement Scams!

- **Get recommendations.** Avoid contractors that contact you unsolicited. Don't hire a contractor based solely on an ad in a local newspaper, even if you're offered a big discount or another incentive. Get recommendations from friends, neighbors, or relatives.
- **See what others are saying.** Before hiring a contractor, check his or her work history with your state consumer protection agency (go to usa.gov/directory/stateconsumer for a list) and the Better Business Bureau at bbb.org. Search the Web using the company or individual's name and such words as "reviews" and "complaints."
- **Check credentials.** Verify with your state that the contractor has the required license or registration. Some states have funds that reimburse consumers who obtain judgments against licensed contractors.
- **Know your rights.** Some states give consumers three days or so to cancel home-improvement contracts. Under federal law you have three days to cancel most contracts that are signed in your home or outside the contractor's regular place of business.
- **Get everything in writing.** Don't rely on spoken promises. Demand a written contract, and get all warranties in writing, too.

Crime Prevention Unit Staff

Lieutenant M. Booker 455-6165

Assistant Supervisor: Sgt. L. Bryan 455-6136

Officer R. Gonzalez - School Resource Officer Heritage High School

Officer L. Brooks - School Resource Officer E.C. Glass High School

Officer A. Johnson - School Resource Officer Dunbar School for Innovation

Officer D. Dill - School Resource Officer Linkhorne Middle School

Officer J. Petersen - School Resource Officer Sandusky Middle School

Officer P. Doss - Community Resource Officer 455-6302

Cindy Kozerow - Crime Prevention Specialist 455-6145

Steven Wood - Community Services Coordinator 455-6158

Police Officer's Memorial Service

As part of the National Police Week events the Lynchburg Police Department is once again hosting a Police Officer's Memorial Service to honor fallen law enforcement from across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

This years service will take place: Tuesday, May 10th at 9:00AM at Heritage United Methodist Church located at 582 Leesville Rd.

Key Note Speaker: Rick Arrington, Retired Police Lieutenant with over 30 years of law enforcement experience. He is a published author and currently serves as the Crime prevention programs Manager at the Virginia Department of criminal Justice Services.

Special Music: Liberty Christian Academy Concert Choir and the Lynchburg Fire Pipes and Drums.



Travel Tip

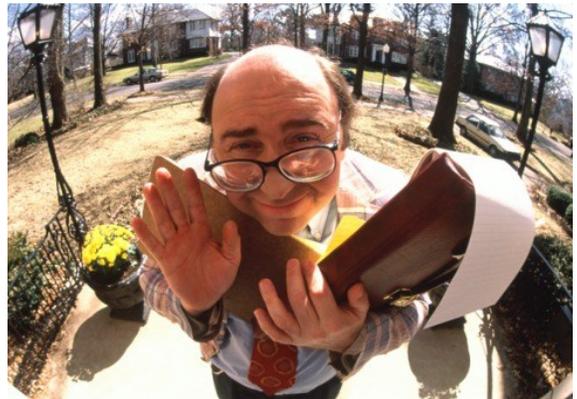
Instead of letting newspapers and mail pile up while you are gone, have a trusted neighbor or relative collect them for you until you return.



Door to door scams!

Ever had a salesman at your door? These 5 tips will lower the risks of being the victim of a scam.

1. Just say no. Prepare and practice a script in which you decline any immediate offer presented by a contractor going door-to-door.
2. Take time to investigate. Request licensing information as well as a list of local references so you can check a contractor's record and work before hiring.
3. Verify insurance with the contractor's insurance company. If an accident were to happen on your property, without proper liability and workers' compensation insurance, you could find yourself liable for covering the costs.
4. Know your rights. Federal law provides for a three-day, no-penalty cancellation option for any contract you sign immediately at your home.
5. If you decide to proceed with a contract, never pay full payment in advance and never relinquish control of insurance funds or other money until a job is completed to your satisfaction.



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“Follow” us at: www.twitter.com/lynchburgpolice



www.lynchburgva.gov/police-department
Crime Prevention Section

