

Estates At Dove Run Neighborhood Watch Meeting

Minutes for November 10, 2009 7:00pm

Committee Members:

- Dave Fisher
- Barbara Cresta
- Edmundo Ocalagan
- Robert Stout

Agenda:

- Police Activity Report for November:
 - A Middletown police investigation linked two suspects to reported car burglaries in the neighborhood. The suspects were already under arrest following an attempt to purchase a large number of Amex Gift Cards.
 - Middletown police made several arrests for underage drinking and DUI after responding to a call in the Dove Run Blvd area. Police made subsequent arrests after reports of a fight at the same location. The MPD would like to remind parents that hosting alcoholic beverage parties for under-aged children is a crime.
 - Delaware State Police arrested a Townsend man following a police chase that ended in The Estates at Dove Run.
- Signs:
 - The committee is still awaiting input from other Middletown neighborhoods in order to reduce cost by ordering signs in bulk. If no decision is made in the near term, the committee will make a recommendation to the town to proceed. We are planning on obtaining a total of 10 signs for the neighborhood.
- Next Meeting:
 - The next meeting will be scheduled for the first week in January at a time and place to be determined. Details will be posted on the Dove Run website.
- Middletown Police November Safety Letter

On behalf the Middletown Police Department I'd like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to spend with friends and family. To make sure your holiday is truly outstanding, remember to keep prevention in mind as you're enjoying your turkey and stuffing.

As a reminder, Thanksgiving is the heaviest traveled holiday. It is anticipated that the heaviest traffic periods will be Wednesday afternoon and Sunday afternoon and evening. Motorists who voluntarily change their travel times and driving early in the morning or even during the overnight hours could lend a great hand in reducing traffic tie-ups and the probability of more crashes.

We would like to offer some safety tips to help provide a happy and safe holiday to you and your family.

If you will be away from home...

- Be sure to ask a trusted friend or neighbor to watch your house and take in the mail or newspapers, cancelling them will only alert a criminal to your absence.

- Be sure to lock your doors and windows before you leave.
- Set your lights on timers so that the house looks lived-in while you're away.
- Keep all exterior lights on.

If you're traveling...

- The Office of Highway Safety will be promoting safe holiday travel, so buckle up, stay sober and drive slow.
- Leave early to avoid the holiday rush, especially if driving long distances.
- Plan your fuel stops ahead of time so you won't be stranded in a location where there is no gas station.
- While at the gas pump, be sure to roll up your windows and lock your doors.
- Plan plenty of time for your trips with adequate stops for breaks.
- Never leave items of value such as cell phones, GPS units, cameras, jewelry, shopping packages or other expensive belongings visible in your car. Lock them in your trunk or take them with you.
- Don't leave your pets in the car unattended.

If you're staying home...

- Make sure to monitor the stove, oven, and candles during all the family commotion and assistance in the kitchen.
- Keep flammable materials, such as pot holders and wooden utensils, away from heat sources, such as your stove.
- Be sure to place carving knives out of the reach of small children.
- Avoid wearing long sleeves or jewelry that may get caught upon pots or oven racks while cooking, causing spills, burns, or even fires.
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- Have a working fire extinguisher near all cooking areas.
- Make sure all smoke detectors are working.

If your shopping...

- Always lock your car and keep packages and valuables out of plain sight or locked in your trunk.
- Try to shop during daylight hours and with another person. Use the buddy system.
- Do not wear expensive items, like jewelry, advertising your prominence.
- Carry minimal cash and no more than two credit cards.
- Carry your purse close to your body, not dangling off of your wrist.
- Park as close to the front of the store or mall entrance as possible.
- Ask for store assistance if you are uncomfortable leaving by yourself. Have a working fire extinguisher near all cooking areas.
- Make sure all smoke detectors are working.