



# Westgate Neighborhood Watch

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Informational Meeting  
November 3, 2008; 7PM  
Stoney Creek Elementary



# What is a Neighborhood Watch?

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- A community based program that is supported by and collaborates with the Sheriffs' Department.
- Teaches citizens how to help themselves by identifying and reporting suspicious activity in the neighborhood.
- Provides the opportunity to make the neighborhood safer and improve the quality of life.



# What is a Neighborhood Watch?

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- Relies on observation and awareness to prevent crime.
- Promotes social interaction and the concept of “watching out for each other”.



# Why does it Work?

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- Involving community members in a watch program decreases opportunities for criminals to commit crime instead of trying to change the criminal's behavior.



# Shared Responsibility

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- A successful watch group must share the responsibility equally with law enforcement.
- Law enforcement alone has a minimal impact on crime when compared with the power of private citizens working with law enforcement and each other.



# The Growing Need for a Watch

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- Our culture today has become more complicated and less personal.
- Families relocate frequently, children participate in an increasing number of activities and often times both parents are working away from home.
- Less personal contact with neighbors, and the decrease in time families spend at home, make a community ripe for crimes of opportunity, such as burglary.

# Westgate's History



# Partnership with Kent County Sheriffs' Department

- Community Policing Officer – Nathan Ertle
  - Recent Westgate Statistics
  - What to Look for
  - How to make a report





# Ready to Resist Crime!

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- An active Neighborhood Watch group, organized and working together with law enforcement, has become the key to preventing burglary and crime nationwide.



# Opportunities for Involvement

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## ■ Block Captains

A Block Captain should be designated for every 10-15 houses (directly involved with their immediate neighbors).

- Act as a liaison between block residents and the Coordinator.
- Establish a “telephone chain” by keeping a listing of current names and phone numbers of their block participants.
- Visit new residents and invite them to join the watch.



# More Opportunities

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- Block Participant
  - Agree to participate.
  - Play an active role in watching out for and reporting suspicious activity.
  - Participate in organizational meetings.



# Group Contacts

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- Coordinators: Jeremy & Amber Kelly
  - Home Phone: 785-1957
  - Cell Phone: 723-2700
- Group Blog
  - [www.westgatewatch.blogspot.com](http://www.westgatewatch.blogspot.com)
- Group E-mail
  - [westgateneighborhoodwatch@gmail.com](mailto:westgateneighborhoodwatch@gmail.com)