



YOUR Community, YOUR Neighbors
OUR RESPONSIBILITY
get involved today

Columbia Neighborhood Watch

September , 2017

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Vacant
Mary Kay James
Officer Amy Bishop, Police Liaison
Vacant
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Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Columbia Neighborhood Watch will be held on **September 25, 2017 at 7 pm at City Hall Conference room A**. There will be a guest speaker from the Columbia Police Department.

Our President will start the meeting with our accomplishments for the past year in his State of the Watch presentation to the members in attendance. We will then vote to confirm Board members. The guest speakers will be next. At the end of the meeting we will have the **drawing for door prizes**. The meeting should last approximately 1 1/2 hours.



card. (Must be present to win)

[Click here to enter](#)

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Members who register in advance of the meeting by emailing their name on the link below will be eligible for a special \$50 Walmart gift

Columbia's National Night Out

The National Night Out event was held with the cooperation of the Columbia Police Department, Neighborhood Services Department and ,of course, Neighborhood Watch. Citizens held 23 individual events

around Columbia. were visited by members of the Police Dept., Fire Dept. and members of the Neighborhood Watch Board.

We thank all those that helped and participated.



Highlights from Officer Bishop

What to do if you have a vehicle accident

With the students back in town, there is more traffic on the roadway. With more traffic, more vehicle accidents sometimes happen. Here are the steps to follow if you are involved in an accident:

1. Move yourself and your vehicle to a safe location. If you can't move your vehicle due to the damage, turn your hazards on to alert other drivers.
2. Check on others involved in the accident. If there are injuries to anyone involved, call police dispatch at 573-442-6131 or dial 911 if there are serious injuries. Be ready to provide the location of the accident, the number of vehicles, the extent of injuries, the number of people who are injured, and a description of the vehicles involved in the accident.
3. Police department personnel can complete an accident report if: a vehicle has to be towed from the scene, there is an intoxicated driver, or there are injuries involved in the accident. If the accident is minor in nature, police department personnel can assist with exchanging information with the other drivers involved in the accident.



New Scam

A new scam is using the name of the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The scammer calls from the "Consumer Protection Agency" or the "Federal Trade Commission" to tell you that you have won 2nd place in a Make-A-Wish Foundation sweepstakes – a \$450,000 prize! You just have to pay \$4,500 in processing fees to claim your award.



If you get a call like this, hang up. If you or someone you know receives a call regarding this bogus Make-A-Wish Foundation Sweepstakes, please notify the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP or ftc.gov/complaint.

When it comes to fraud, vigilance is our number one weapon. You have the power to protect yourself and your loved ones from scams. Please share this alert with friends and family.

Courtesy of AARP Fraud Watch Network

Alert: Hurricane Harvey scams spreading

Fake Facebook, Go FundMe Donations and Phishing emails are just a few of the scammers methods. The best way to ensure your donation actually goes where you intend is to go through a trusted source. To see a list of charities that have been vetted by Charity Navigator [Click Here](#) . You can trust the list provided there and I highly recommend donating whatever you can.

Up Coming Training events

September 19, 2017 - Open FREE training 7 pm at Boone Electric Community Room 1413 Rangeline St.

September 25, 2017 - Annual Meeting 7 pm at City Hall

Public Image

The Board of Columbia Neighborhood Watch has participated in three major public events and some minor events this past year. This is part of our aim to make CNW more familiar to the citizens of Columbia and gain membership.

Most recently we were invited to join the CPD's COU's event at Indian Hill park for their neighborhood BBQ on August 12th. We also had booths at the Senior Fair and the Home Show, both held at the Parkade Center.

Board Opening

We currently have **openings** on the CNW Board. If you are interested, contact us at **col.neighwatch@gmail.com** with Board Opening in the subject line. We will then provide you with a Board Prospective to give you an idea of what the duties entails. After reviewing the Prospective, you will be invited to sit in on one of our Board Meetings to observe and make a final decision if you would like the Board to vote on accepting you as a Board Member.

Speaker is available

If you are a member on an organization that would like a speaker, please contact us at col.neighwatch@gmail.com to arrange. We can provide an informative talk on Neighborhood Watch from 20 minutes to as little as 5 minutes and will answer any questions your members may have.

Crime Stoppers provides a means of communication for members of the public to anonymously provide law enforcement agencies with information on crimes or suspects. Tipster can give information without revealing their identity and may be eligible for a financial reward for the information they provide. For Columbia and Boone County call: (573) 875-8977.

Facebook: Columbia Neighborhood Watch

internet: www.columbianeighborhoodwatch.org

We will be joining  CoMoGives.com This December!

Columbia Neighborhood Watch
To again participate in
the annual COMOGives campaign

Your Columbia Neighborhood Watch is a 501c3 nonprofit as defined by the Internal Revenue Service. This means that all donations, large or small, contributed to the organization are fully deductible on both personal and business tax returns.

Columbia Neighborhood Watch relies solely on individual and business gifts and public grants to exist and fulfill its mission to inform, train and encourage residents to work together to establish and maintain neighborhood watch programs with the goal of reducing crime.

These programs and resources are offered without cost to the citizens of Columbia; but they are not free to produce, deliver, and support. Several thousands of dollars are required annually to produce the printed training materials, handouts that are used at community and annual events, signs that are mounted and maintained at each Neighborhood Watch Community, not to mention the cost associated with maintaining a website, email services, Facebook presence, and many other electronic resources to assist you, the community, in fighting crime and making Columbia a safer place to live, work, and enjoy the fruit of our labors.

Four (4) years ago, the Community Foundation of Central Missouri, an organization that represents all nonprofits in central Missouri, began a year-end campaign to facilitate end-of-year giving from individuals and businesses to the many worthy nonprofits in need of on-going funding. This program has grown exponentially and during the 2016 campaign raised over \$567,000 for 91 organizations in central Missouri.

For the 2017 campaign 114 nonprofit organizations have registered, and your Columbia Neighborhood Watch has registered for its second year. We considered last year a successful first year for us, but with over 120,000 folks in Columbia proper and over 3,000 people listed as members of Columbia Neighborhood Watch, we know we can do far better.

In the first six months of 2017, violent crime is up over 57% compared to the same period of 2016, and non-violent crime (burglary, theft, etc.) has almost doubled. The Columbia Police Department is understaffed by over one-third (1/3) of its authorized strength. There are times when there are as few as seven (7) police officers on the streets of Columbia attempting to protect 120,000+ residents plus visitors over nearly seventy (70) square miles. Those are unrealistic expectations and our officers need all the public's support that they can get. This is why your Columbia Neighborhood Watch is soooooo..... important.

The COMOGives campaign begins December 1 and ends December 31 at midnight. Please mark your calendars and seriously consider a generous year-end gift to the only organization in Columbia that is dedicated to the prevention of crime and the protection of life and property. Every dollar given goes directly to our programs, not one penny is used for overhead or administrative costs, our board is 100% volunteer and does not receive any compensation for their tireless activities. Again, mark your calendars for December 2017 with very a generous contribution..

Did you know that you can shop on Amazon and they will donate to Columbia Neighborhood Watch and it won't cost you a dime?

1. Visit smile.amazon.com. (same products as Amazon)
2. Sign in with your Amazon username & password and Choose Your Charity- [Columbia Neighborhood Watch](#)
3. Begin shopping!

Once you've selected your charity everything else functions the same as with Amazon. Shop for your favorite products or the perfect gift. Most products are eligible on Amazon Smile—if not, you'll be notified. You can checkout normally as well. **No extra cost is passed onto you**—Amazon **will donate 0.5%** of your purchase to Columbia Neighborhood Watch!

Have a laugh!

A rookie police officer was out for his first ride in a cruiser with an experienced partner. A call came in telling them to disperse some people who were loitering. The officers drove to the street and observed a small crowd standing on a corner. The rookie rolled down his window and said, "Let's get off the corner, people." A few glances, but no one moved, so he barked again, "Let's get off that corner...NOW!" Intimidated, the group of people began to leave, casting puzzled stares in his direction. Proud of his first official act, the young policeman turned to his partner and asked, "Well, how did I do?" "Pretty good," chuckled the veteran policeman, "But, this is a bus stop."