



YOUR Community, YOUR Neighbors
OUR RESPONSIBILITY
get involved today

Columbia Neighborhood Watch

September, 2020

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Jeff Hempstead, Secretary

Herb Watchinski Jr, Treasurer

Nolanda Dodd

Jacob Novak

Al Barrier

Pam Socha

Sean Nevills

Officer Jason McClintic, Police Liaison

We are back to a full Board. Please welcome Al Barrier, Pam Socha and Sean Nevills as our newest Board Members.

Annual Meeting:

Our **Annual Meeting** will be held this September 14, 2020 at 5:45 pm on the web as a zoom meeting as a result of the COVID-19 virus . If you would like to participate please send an email to col.neighwatch@gmail.com with Annual meeting in the subject line. You will be sent an invitation with the zoom link to join the meeting. The Annual Report will be included in the December Newsletter.

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Comments Needed:

If you love our work then tell the world! Stories about us from people like you will help us make an even bigger impact in our community. GreatNonprofits – the #1 source of nonprofit stories and feedback – is honoring highly regarded nonprofits with their 2020 Top-Rated List. **Won't you help us** raise visibility for our work by posting a brief story of your experience with us? All content will be visible to potential donors and volunteers. It's easy and only takes 3 minutes! Go here to get started! <https://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/write/columbia-neighborhood-watch>



Information for this year's National Night Out 2020, October 6th, 2020

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August. Due to the pandemic, Columbia plans to celebrate on the first Tuesday in October. Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and more. Please keep your eyes peeled for communication from the City of Columbia, Next Door, and other neighborhood associations as we get closer to this year's event.

HELP! HELP! HELP!

COLUMBIA NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH HAS LOST ITS FUNDING FROM THE CITY OF COLUMBIA!

While the coronavirus has impacted individuals, businesses, and government entities alike, it has hit the Columbia Neighborhood Watch (CNW) with acute viciousness. The CNW annual budget is just under \$5000 which has been covered for the past several years by a grant from the City of Columbia, dispersed through the Columbia Police Department (CPD). With our community being swept by the virus this grant has not been renewed, leaving CNW with upcoming expenses of nearly \$5000 with limited resources to fulfill our on-going financial requirements.

Unfortunately, crime has not taken a hiatus during this pandemic and continues to inject itself within our neighborhoods. With reduced staffing and other restrictions due to the pandemic, the CPD is stretched to its limit in handling just the basic calls for service. Only those areas of Columbia that have an active and vibrant Neighborhood Watch can show that they have mitigated these current conditions.

Starting and maintaining an active Neighborhood Watch program is not difficult, but it requires training, resources, and support from Columbia Neighborhood Watch to effectively implement. **And this requires money.** Everything required to successfully bring a neighborhood into the CNW family has a cost; whether it is training, virtual or otherwise, neighborhood resources and guidance, or support activities – **it costs money!!!**

Columbia Neighborhood Watch, with a scholarship from the Community Foundation of Central Missouri to cover our entrance fee, is participating in this year's annual fund raiser CoMoGives during the month of December. We are hoping to graciously receive in donations enough to cover our actual expenses for the upcoming fiscal year. But we can not do it alone – we need every CNW member, their families, friends, acquaintances, business associates, colleagues, neighbors, social media enthusiasts, and everyone else to contribute and encourage others to do the same. Please save your Columbia Neighborhood Watch!

Herb Watchinski Jr
Treasurer
Columbia Neighborhood Watch

Additional information regarding this years CoMoGives campaign will be found at the end of this newsletter.

Help us at no cost to you:

COLUMBIA NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH, Congratulations on your enrollment into the **Gerbes Food Stores Community Rewards Program**. Our members may begin enrolling.

You have been assigned a new NPO (Non-Profit Organization) number *BF527*. Please refer to this number in all future correspondence.

To Use the Gerbes Food Stores Community Rewards Program:

Simply encourage your participants to visit the appropriate link below..

For Gerbes Stores - go to <http://www.gerbes.com>

Once logged into their Gerbes Food Stores account they can search for COLUMBIA NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH either by name or BF527 and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a *rewards* card.

*If a member does not yet have a Gerbes Food Stores *rewards* card, please let them know they are available at the customer service desk.

REMEMBER, purchases will not count for our organization until after our members register their *rewards* card.

Participants must swipe their registered Gerbes Food Stores *rewards* card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Gerbes Food Stores *rewards* card when shopping for each purchase to count.

TRAINING:

Until cleared by the Health Department, all our trainings will be via the internet in the form of a live webinar training.



Columbia Neighborhood Watch

To participate in
the **GIVING Tuesday** 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 our community, in fighting crime and making Columbia a safer place to live, work, and enjoy the fruit of our labors.

Please mark your calendars and seriously consider a generous gift to the only nonprofit organization in Columbia that is dedicated to the prevention of crime and the protection of life and property. Every dollar goes directly to our programs to further our mission. Our board is 100% volunteer and no paid staff. Again, mark your calendars for Giving Tuesday December 1st and help us continue our mission.

[DONATE Here](http://www.columbianeighborhoodwatch.org/donations/) at www.columbianeighborhoodwatch.org/donations/

We All Contribute to Community Safety

An individual homeowner can do very little to deter a burglary other than hire an outside security company to install an alarm which will notify the authorities after the break-in has occurred. More often than not, there is no way to communicate with their neighbors about security issues.

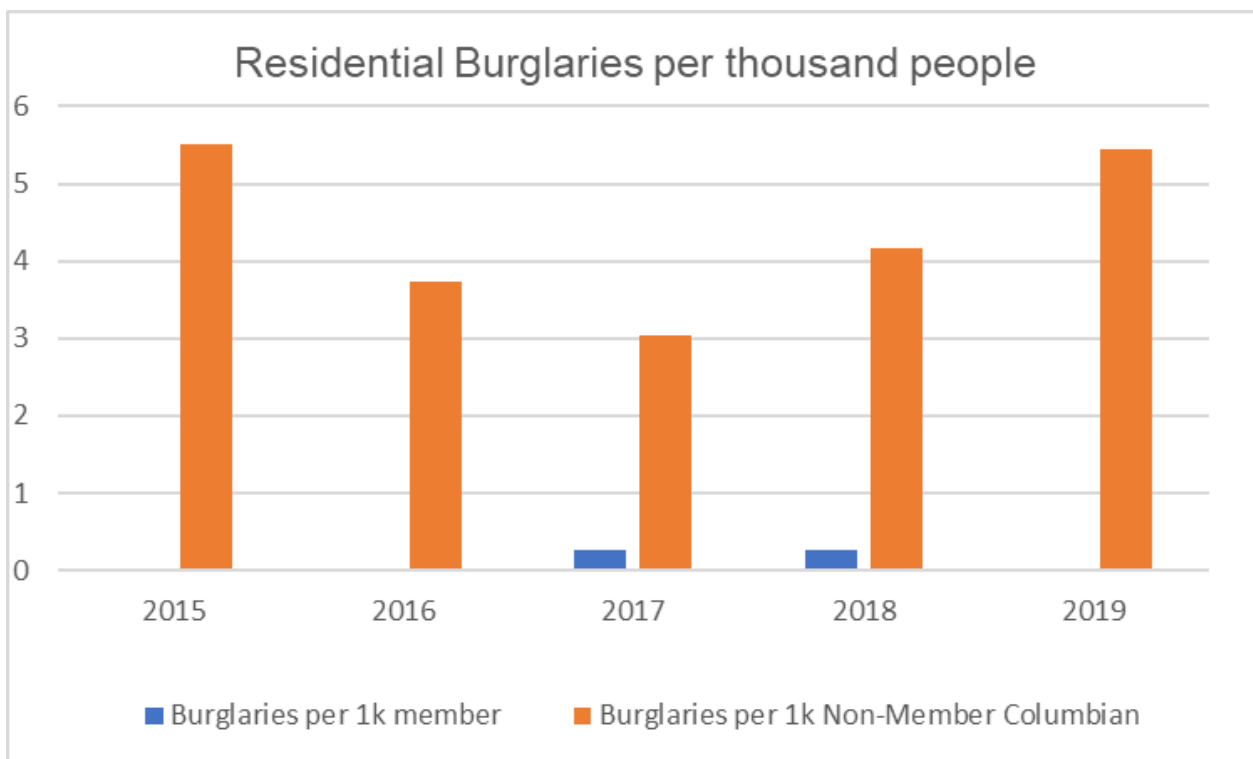
If we all kept an eye out on our neighbor's house while they are away, reported suspicious activity and/or persons, and complied with our rules & regulations, then we would virtually eliminate the causes of neighborhood crime. We should be focusing on how we can use our association to help improve the quality of our lives.



This year the **National Night Out** has been moved to October 6th because of the virus concerns.

Does Neighborhood Watch work?

If you have ever wondered if Neighborhood Watch works here in Columbia, just look at the chart below and judge for yourself.



This data shows that it is working here in Columbia,

CoMoGives Fundraiser

Through a scholarship Columbia Neighborhood Watch will be participating in this years fundraising campaign. The CoMoGives campaign starts December 1 and goes through December 31. More information will be in the December newsletter.

Help us by using Amazon Smile and name **Columbia Neighborhood Watch** as who you want them to donate to at no cost to you.



Jokes:

A MAN went through the gate of a large factory one day, pushing a wheelbarrow full of sawdust, and was stopped by the guard. He told the guard he had permission to remove the sawdust. The guard let the fellow go on his way. The same thing continued for many days. Finally, a fellow worker asked the sawdust collector what he was doing: “are you stealing all this sawdust, or what?” “No, the wheelbarrows.”

PEOPLE who think time heals everything haven't sat it out in a doctor's waiting room.
