



CHARLES COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:

**Fun Facts:  
For the  
Month of July**

.U.S. postage stamps went on sale for the first time. (1847)

Zip codes go into use. (1963)

The Lawrence Welk show premieres on television. (1955)

Baseball great Joe DiMaggio hits his first grand slam. (1937)

The U.S. State Department issues the first passport. (1796)

Etch-a-Sketch goes on sale (1960)

Margarine is patented. (1869)

The air conditioner was invented. (1902)

Walt Disney's "Steamboat Willie" premieres. (1928)

# WATCH WORKS

SHERIFF TROY BERRY

JULY 2016

## Theft From Auto. Eliminate the Opportunity

### Thieves look for the right opportunity.

Generally, thieves look for easy, risk free opportunities. Drivers become complacent about vehicle security and tend to leave their cars unlocked, windows down, and valuables in plain sight and easily accessible. As a result, drivers unwittingly create an easy opportunity for thieves to commit a crime.

### Target Selection, Why Your Vehicle?

Suburban residential neighborhoods and parking lots offer criminals a large number of potential opportunities for theft. The area can be quickly canvassed by thieves. Generally thieves already possess the desire to com-

mit a crime. By exploiting unlocked cars or cars with windows left down or visually identifying a desirable object in plain view, a thief needs very little ability to commit the crime.

Don't Provide the Opportunity!

**Items are stolen from a vehicle every 8 minutes in the State of Maryland. 28% of all thefts reported are thefts from vehicles.**

### Prevention Tips, Removing the Opportunity.

- Roll up your windows before parking.

Keep the vehicle locked when unattended.

Keep packages, loose change, garage door openers and valuables out of sight or in the trunk.

Do not hide a second set of keys in/on your car.

Look for parking spaces in well lighted areas.

Avoid parking near dumpsters, large vans, or trucks that would obstruct the public view of your vehicle .

Record serial numbers for cell phones, GPS units, portable music players and other items frequently used in your vehicle.

The only thing that the thief lacks is an **opportunity**.

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

Just around the corner, August 2nd is National Night Out. Many neighborhoods around the Nation and in Charles County are gearing up to come outside and celebrate with their neighbors. Look for a celebrations in your neighborhood or a neighborhood near you. These celebrations

range from pizza parties to full scale carnivals. It doesn't really matter how you celebrate as long as you get to know your neighbors so that together you can keep your community safe. If you have never joined in on the NNO celebration and think your neighborhood would like to, call

Connie Gray 301-932-3080 or send an email to grayc@ccso.us. You don't have to spend a lot of money to have a celebration. Just get your neighbors outside to meet each other and talk about ways you can make your neighborhood safe.



**CCSO**  
**CUMMUNITY**  
**ORGANIZER**  
**CONNIE GRAY**  
 301-932-3080  
 grayc@ccso.us

# Medication Disposal Program

Did you know you can bring your outdated or unwanted medication to the Sheriff's Office for disposal?

- ◆ Bring your medication to the drop box at one of our district stations.
- ◆ Remove any personal information, including the Rx number from the medication's container.
- ◆ Place your medication in the protective plastic bag provided.

- ◆ Discard it in the drop box.

We accept prescription and non-prescription medication, pet medication, and vitamins. Liquids or syringes will not be accepted.

Improper discarding of medication is an environmental hazard. The medication inevitably makes its way into our water system, and the contamination cannot be completely eliminated through the water treatment process.

Our services safely dispose of your medication, and you can participate anonymously.

Help protect your drinking water and the environment.

La Plata District 1 Station 6855 Crain Highway

Bryans Road District 2 Station, 3145 Marshall Hall Road.

Waldorf District 3 Station 3670 Leonardtown Road.

## A Word From Your Community Organizer

Now that summer is here and schools are closed what are your children doing for the summer? Do you have them in summer camp or childcare? If there are elderly citizens in your neighborhood they may need some help with their yard work or other odd jobs. If you just check with them to make sure everything is ok it could

make their day and maybe avoid a bad situation. Are they staying cool? Do they need medication picked up and have no way to get it? Sometimes just showing someone you care will make their day. Little things make a difference in having a great neighborhood to live in and not just a place where you bought your home. A

neighborhood where everyone knows each other and cares about what goes on. Be the one to make the difference and watch everyone follow your good example.

Enjoy your summer and be safe!

*Connie*

# Going on Vacation?



by sharing too much information on your social networks. Don't announce, "heading to the beach" or "vacation time".

- Lock all your windows and doors. Don't forget about doors leading to the garage or second story windows.
  - Have mail and newspaper delivery stopped. A sign that nobody is home is a stack of mail and newspapers. You can temporarily stop delivery by contacting your newspaper carrier and the United States Post Office.
  - Make sure any yard tools are put away. A ladder, rakes, and even patio furniture can all be used as tools to gain entry to your home.
  - Unplug tvs, lamps, computers and other items that may be destroyed in an electric storm or power surge.
  - Stay off social media. Don't tip criminals off
- Refrain from posting photos, status updates, or "checking in" while on vacation. Keep cash and credit cards in separate places. Never carry your credit cards and cash at the same time. You'll want to keep some cash in your wallet, and then stash the rest in a pocket or money pouch. Lock some cash in your glove compartment in your vehicle.
- Remember to pack medications your family members need and a first aid kit.
  - Never stop at an outdoor ATM machine after dark.
  - Always park in a well-lit area and notice where your vehicle is parked.
  - Secure valuables left in

the vehicle in the center console, glove box, or trunk.

- Always put your windows up and lock your doors. Your vehicles locks are only good if you use them.
- When you arrive at your hotel, check for emergency exits.
- Make sure the locks on the doors of your room all work.
- Never tell someone you just met where you are staying and your room number or which floor you are on.
- Carry emergency numbers, neighbors, doctors etc.
- Let family members and trusted neighbors know where you are, how long you will be and how to reach you.
- When packing to return home remember to look under the bed, behind the doors, in the laundry and out on the patio for things you don't want to leave behind.

***A vacation is having nothing to do and all day to do it. ~ Robert Orben***



**Memories made at the beach stay in our hearts forever. ~unknown**





## Charles County Sheriff's Office

6915 Crain highway  
P.O. Box 189  
La Plata, MD 20646

(301)932-2222

## MISSION STATEMENT

THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ARE DEDICATED TO SERVICE THROUGH SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE. WE BELIEVE MUTUAL RESPECT, TRUST AND PRIDE IN OUR ORGANIZATION, COMBINED WITH TRADITIONAL VALUES AND INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES, WILL ENSURE THE COMMUNITY'S RIGHT TO A SAFE ENVIRONMENT.

# Value Statements

**LIFE** We believe the protection of life is our highest priority.

**RESPECT** We believe in individual human dignity and the preservation of human rights under the rule and spirit of law, always treating others as we would like to be treated.

**INTEGRITY** We believe in maintaining the public trust by holding ourselves accountable to the highest moral and ethical standards.

**FAIRNESS** We believe in the delivery of service that provides fair and equal treatment to all citizens without regard to age, gender, race, creed, color, religion or national origin.

**TRUST** We believe in order to provide effective service we must develop and maintain the confidence of the community.

**PARTNERSHIPS** We believe in working in partnership with the community and each other to identify and resolve

problems and issues which affect the safety of our citizens.

**LOYALTY** We believe in an allegiance to the community, to the organization and to each other.

**PROFESSIONALISM** We believe in delivering a level of service which will reflect the pride we have in our community and organization.



Charles County Sheriff's Office  
Honor Guard.