

Press Release

OPEN Community Block Watch Meeting

Topics include: Block Watch, Nextdoor.com, Dog Walker Watch, and the Crime Free Rental Housing and the Career Criminal Apprehension Team.

Walla Walla Police Department's-Fulton Community Room, 54 E. Moore, 7:00 pm January 19, 2016

The Walla Walla Community is invited to an OPEN BLOCK WATCH MEETING to learn about crime trends, the Block Watch program, NEXTDOOR.COM, Dog Walker Watch, the Crime Free Rental Housing program and the police department's newest program, Career Criminal Apprehension Team "CCAT- pronounced CAT". *CCAT focuses on arresting the 1% of our population whose only primary activity is really to committing crimes – many of the gang members and their associates fall into this category.*

Vicki Ruley, Walla Walla Police Department's Crime Prevention Coordinator will host this meeting. Also attending are: Officer Tim Bennett -the Crime Free Rental Housing Coordinator, Patrol Officer Nick Johnson, and CCAT Detectives: Jeremy Maiuri and Luke Watson.

Block Watch is a Crime Prevention Program where neighbors work together with law enforcement to help solve crime problems. Historically over the past twenty years 136 neighborhoods have participated in Block Watch. The Average number of households who attended these meetings was about 1,360.

Traditionally, Block Watch meetings happen when neighbors fall victim to crimes such as vehicle prowls, burglaries, graffiti, or drug trafficking. Neighbors along with law enforcement meet to get everyone "on the same page". When the crime problem goes away – law neighborhoods lose interest in continuing to meet.

As times have changed - Neighborhood dynamics have changed. With busy schedules and the internet came Nextdoor.com which has grown to 1,351 members in a short amount of time. Nextdoor is a great way for neighbors to meet and communicate which is why the Walla Walla Police Department also joined Nextdoor.com.
