



HUNTINGTON BEACH
**NEIGHBORHOOD
WATCH
NEWSLETTER**



**TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME**

Date: February 2007 Vol. 35 No. 2

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|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| POLICE/FIRE EMERGENCY | 911 | Information Desk | 960-8843 |
| NON-EMERGENCY/DISPATCH | 960-8825 | Graffiti Hot Line | 960-8861 |
| POLICE: Business Line | 960-8811 | Neighborhood Watch | 536-5933 |
| Vacation checks (R.S.V.P.) | 374-1507 | Layout Design: | Shirley Salter |
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FEBRUARY POSTAGE UPDATE

We need \$20,000 again this year to cover the expenses of postage, labels, and returned Newsletters. For the past 28 years, we have been able to raise this money through generous donations from our subscribers and advertisers. We hope we can continue to do this in 2007. A \$4 donation pays for each subscriber's postage; a \$5 or more donation puts your name in the Newsletter as a contributor; and a \$20 donation will put your name in the Newsletter plus you will receive a Neighborhood Watch sticker and a Surf City keychain. And, remember, since we are a non-profit organization, your donations are tax deductible.



Make your checks payable to: **HB NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

**Send to: HB NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
PO BOX 5667
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92615**

**Or: HB POLICE DEPARTMENT
2000 MAIN ST.
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92648**

REMEMBER



To Receive Your Newsletter Online:

Please send an e-mail to:
swajda@hbpd.org

**HB NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, March 13, 2007 at 6:30 pm
Huntington Beach Police Dept.
2nd Floor Conference Room**

SAFETY TIPS – GRAFFITI VANDALISM

Graffiti is not simply a maintenance problem, but a complex social problem as well. Most graffiti vandalism is caused by minors in the late night or early morning hours. Some graffiti is the product of gang activity and is used to identify territories, indicate associations or conflicts between gang members, or promote the sale of illegal drugs.



The vast majority of the increase in graffiti vandalism is the result of "tagging" committed by juvenile vandals with the primary objective being peer recognition. Taggers are not necessarily gang members and come from all neighborhoods of the city.

What You Can Do To Stop Graffiti Vandalism

- Remove any graffiti on your property **immediately!**
- Make sure your child is not a graffiti vandal.
- Report it!
- Assist your neighbors if they need your help.
- Work with the Police Department if you know of someone guilty of graffiti vandalism.

What To Do If You Are A Victim Of Graffiti Vandalism

- DO NOT attempt to apprehend the suspect.
- Do get a good description of the suspect(s) and vehicle(s) involved, and the location.
- Call 960-8825 to have a police officer come to your house and take a report if the suspects are seen, known, or if there is a witness.

How To Remove Graffiti From Private Property

- Use matching paint so you don't leave a "canvas" for them.
- Keep paint readily available.
- Use Methyl Ethyl Ketone (MEK) on glass or previously painted, metal surfaces.
- Use **Graffiti Remover** on glass, unpainted metal surfaces, or brick or block walls--you must also scrub with soap and water. Always wear rubber gloves.
- Graffiti removed promptly discourages future graffiti

PUBLIC PROPERTY: Call City's Graffiti Hotline at 960-8861



HOW TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

**City of Huntington Beach
Planning Department
Code Enforcement Division**

In the arena of property maintenance issues and “Good Neighbor” conduct are a few relatively unknown regulations that routinely require enforcement action. With the hopes of enlightening our constituency, Code Enforcement is pleased to present simplified information for a few of the more obscure and sometimes misunderstood Municipal and Zoning Code sections. Specific language for each **Huntington Beach Municipal or Zoning Code** identified is available at our website: www.surfcity-hb.org.

Obstruction of Public Rights-of-Way (PROW)

Pedestrian and vehicular traffic safety is at risk when obstructions occur. There are two sections that are most commonly violated. **HBMC Sec. 8.17.010** relates to vegetation and **Sec. 12.12.020** concerns placement of items.



Vegetation involves branches, bushes, etc., that encroach across or into sidewalks, alleys and streets. This includes lower plantings that extend beyond the property boundary. A good rule of thumb is to trim back and maintain all landscape even with

your property line. This does not include branches or other vegetation that overhang from one private property to another – this is a civil matter between adjacent property owners and is not City enforceable.

Items within the PROW are a growing problem and create a serious safety hazard. The most common are portable basketball hoops and skateboard ramps left on sidewalks and in streets. It is important to utilize these items only on private property because there is a liability risk for both the property owners and the City in the event of damage or injury to the innocent public. Other obstructions may include the hitches/tongues of boats or other trailers/RV’s; construction debris; landscape clippings; trash containers, etc. Some items, such as dirt or gravel, may be temporarily stored within the PROW after first obtaining an encroachment permit through the Public Works Department on the first floor at City Hall.



Your cooperation with maintaining streets and sidewalks free and clear of obstacles is an important component for enhancing our quality of life and “Good Neighbor” policies.

Accessory Structure Placement

This most often affects tool or storage sheds, playhouses, gazebos, and the like, upon residential property and is addressed in **HBZSO Sec. 230.08**. Required setback measurements are detailed in **Sec. 210.06**. If an accessory structure is 6 ft. or over in height and has a floor area of 120 sq. ft. or more, a Building Permit is required. Minor accessory structures that do not exceed 64 sq. ft. floor area, 80 sq. ft. roof area and 6 ft. in height are permitted within the rear two-thirds of the lot with a 5 ft. clearance maintained from the main dwelling structure when it is placed in a side yard. This clearance is required for access by fire safety personnel.



All other sheds, etc., must be, in most cases, 3.5 ft. from side property lines and 5 ft. from rear lines. If in doubt, please do not hesitate to contact the Planning Department for precise information regarding your specific property.

Code Enforcement appreciates all cooperative efforts within our neighborhoods to comply with safety and aesthetic requirements. Eliminating blight, protecting property values, and contributing to the safest quality of life possible are our goals.

We welcome your questions or comments regarding these and other property maintenance requirements. By calling **375-5155** you may locate the Code Enforcement Officer assigned to your neighborhood and be assisted accordingly.

Please watch for future articles and Code Enforcement stories.

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES, VEHICLE BURGLARIES GRAND THEFT AUTOS

The police patrol areas are the north and south. The patrol beats are 2-13. Your RD (Reporting District) is the half-mile square surrounding your home.

To locate your Beat and RD, please check the map on the back inside page. In most cases, your BEAT/RD is identified on your address mailing label.

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES

37 entries in January
53 entries in December

Eight of the entries were due to **OPEN OR UNLOCKED** windows or doors, or 22% of the entries reported.

Further breakdown reveals 8 garage entries out of 26 burglaries, or 22% of the entries reported in January.

Twenty of the entries reported occurred during daytime (6:00 am. to 6:00 pm.). Seventeen entries occurred during night (6:00 pm. to 6:00 am.).

Nine entries by force or pry tool, seven entries by unknown means, five attempts without entry, one entry by force with house for sale, four entries by passkeys, two entries by window smash and one entry by force with house under construction.

VEHICLE BURGLARIES

70 reported in January
92 reported in December

GRAND THEFT AUTOS

35 reported in January
57 reported in December

BEAT 2

0 Residential Burglaries
2 Vehicle Burglaries
0 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries

None
Streets: None

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 476 - 2

Grand Theft Autos

None

BEAT 3

3 Residential Burglaries
2 Vehicle Burglaries
1 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 446 - 1 RD 456 - 1
RD 457 - 1

Streets: Running Springs, Kite and Cynthia. **TWO ENTRIES BY OPEN OR UNLOCKED WINDOWS OR DOORS.** One entry by force or pry. There were no garage entries.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 444- 1 RD 447 - 1

Grand Theft Autos

RD 445- 1

BEAT 4

6 Residential Burglaries
13 Vehicle Burglaries
4 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries

RD 432 - 1 RD 442 - 2
RD 462 - 1 RD 463 - 1
RD 473 - 1

Streets: Alabama, England, Delaware, Huntington, Terranova, and Newland. **THREE ENTRIES BY OPEN OR UNLOCKED WINDOWS OR DOORS.** Two entries by unknown means and one attempt without entry. There were two garage entries.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 432 - 1 RD 442 - 4
RD 443 - 1 RD 452 - 1
RD 463 - 5 RD 472 - 1

Grand Theft Autos

RD 442 - 2 RD 452 - 2

BEAT 5

1 Residential Burglary
8 Vehicle Burglaries
3 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries

RD 424 - 1

Streets: Homestead with entry by unknown means. There were no garage entries.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 426 - 1 RD 427- 1
RD 434 - 4 RD 435 - 1
RD 436 - 1

Grand Theft Autos

RD 424 - 1 RD 426 - 1
RD 436 - 1

BEAT 6

4 Residential Burglaries
8 Vehicle Burglaries
4 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries

RD 339 - 1 RD 348 - 1
RD 349 - 2

Streets: Morning Tide, 20th St., 19th St., and Acacia. **ONE ENTRY BY AN UNLOCKED WINDOW OR DOOR.** One entry by force with the house up for sale, one entry by unknown means and one entry by force. There were two garage entries.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 326 - 1 RD 327 - 4
RD 348 - 1 RD 359 - 1
RD 451 - 1

Grand Theft Autos

RD 338 - 1 RD 349 - 1
RD 359 - 1 RD 441 - 1

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES, VEHICLE BURGLARIES, GRAND THEFT AUTOS

BEAT 7

5 Residential Burglaries
 9 Vehicle Burglaries
 3 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries

RD 293 – 2 RD 412 – 1
 RD 422 – 2

Streets: Amberleaf, Florida, Del Way, and two entries on Sterling (same house). There was one entry by a passkey, two attempts without entry, one entry by force and one entry by a window smash. There was one garage entry.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 292 – 2 RD 413 – 5
 RD 421 – 1 RD 423 – 1

Grand Theft Autos

RD 292 – 1 RD 421 – 1
 RD 423 – 1

BEAT 8

0 Residential Burglaries
 4 Vehicle Burglaries
 2 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

None

Streets: None

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 178 – 2 RD 179 – 2

Grand Theft Autos

RD 178 – 1 RD 179 – 1

BEAT 9

3 Residential Burglaries
 5 Vehicle Burglaries
 4 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries

RD 272 – 1 RD 273 – 1
 RD 283 – 1

Streets: Keelson, Waal and Van Buren. Two entries by passkeys and one entry by force or pry. There were no garage entries.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 263 – 1 RD 264 – 1
 RD 272 – 1 RD 282 – 1
 RD 283 – 1

Grand Theft Autos

RD 264 - 1 RD 272 – 2
 RD 282 – 1

BEAT 10

8 Residential Burglaries
 11 Vehicle Burglaries
 2 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries

RD 151 – 2 RD 154 – 1
 RD 163 - 1 RD 165 – 2
 RD 175 – 2

Streets: Shorebird, Baruna, two entries each on Coast, Milo and Tiara. Two entries by unknown means, one entry by a window smash, one entry by force with house under construction, three entries by force or pry tool and one entry by a passkey. There were two garage entries.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 152 – 1 RD 153 – 1
 RD 155 – 4 RD 162 – 2
 RD 165 – 2 RD 175 – 1

Grand Theft Autos

RD 151 – 1 RD 173 – 1

BEAT 11

2 Residential Burglaries
 2 Vehicle Burglaries
 0 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries

RD 159 - 1 RD 169 – 1

Streets: Bridgewater and Patricia. **ONE ENTRY BY AN OPEN WINDOW.** There was one attempt without entry. There were no garage entries.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 169 – 2

Grand Theft Autos

None

BEAT 12

1 Residential Burglary
 4 Vehicle Burglaries
 2 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries

RD 149 – 1

Street: Red Coach with entry by force in to the garage

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 117 – 1 RD 118 – 1
 RD 139 – 1 RD 147 – 1

Grand Theft Autos

RD 137 – 1 RD 146 – 1

BEAT 13

4 Residential Burglaries
 2 Vehicle Burglaries
 10 Grand Theft Autos

Residential Burglaries

RD 232 – 1 RD 242 – 1
 RD 252 – 2

Streets: Cascade, Huntington Village, Juliette Low and Mark (suspect arrested for these two entries). **ONE ENTRY BY A OPEN OR UNLOCKED WINDOW OR DOOR.** One entry by unknown means, one entry by force or pry tool and one attempt without entry. There were no garage entries.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 253 – 1 RD 262 – 1

Grand Theft Autos

RD 232 – 1 RD 242 – 5
 RD 253 – 4

