



T.I.P.S.



"TIPS AND INFO FOR PUBLIC SAFETY"

Volume 22, Issue 2

Summer 2014



America's Night Out Against Crime

National Night Out, New Hope's Night to Unite!



It's Not too Late!

Yes, it's the last minute, but you can still sign up! If you're just getting the idea, you may be running a little late on time. Please give us a call right away and take advantage of the biggest crime prevention event throughout our country, state and here in New Hope.

National Night Out, New Hope's Night to Unite is a chance to work together as a community to prevent crime and to keep New Hope a wonderful place to live, work, play, and learn. Each year, for the past several years, we have had between 89-99 National Night Out/Night to Unite events throughout New Hope. There is still room to grow, and we would love to see events organized on every block in the City!

Don't make the mistake of assuming that someone else is organizing your event. Each year we get disappointed callers trying to find an event close to home because no one on their block is planning one.

HANDS-ONLY CPR

This year the New Hope Police Department is encouraging all groups to distribute information on Hands-Only CPR. There will be a few flyers in the bags and Officer Korth will send out links to the websites with videos (or use just for the sound) that can be accessed and played during your event. The more people who learn CPR, the better chance for early intervention and survival.

FOOD & SCHOOL SUPPLIES

HELP US COLLECT DONATIONS! We are participating in a challenge with the City of Crystal to see how much food each City can collect from our National Night Out/Night to Unite events. By issuing this challenge last year, New Hope was instrumental in more than doubling the amount of food and school supplies delivered to local charities. We'd like to bring in more than ever this year to help families in need in our community. Please remember to drop off your donations if no one is able to stop and pick them up.

We look forward to seeing everyone out on TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, to give crime a big going away party!

CONTACT US: www.ci.new-hope.mn.us

**New Hope Police Department
4401 Xylon Avenue North
New Hope, MN 55428**

Records or Information 763-531-5170

Community Services 763-531-5140

**Animal Control Questions 763-531-5161
(for response call 911)**

Police, Fire, or Medical Response 911



Meet Some of the Newest Members of the New Hope Police Department



Officer Josh Eernisse started with the city on January 27, 2014, as a police officer. Josh was a police officer with Mason City, Iowa since 2008 where he was trained as a Field Training Officer and a Firearms Instructor. He was also a member of the Mason City domestic/sexual abuse response team and a member of the honor guard team. He is originally from Minnesota and wanted to return here to be closer to family and friends.



Officer Adam Johnson started with the city on January 27, 2014 as a police officer. He served as a Deputy Sheriff with Hennepin County since 2010, mainly working in the jails. He is looking forward to being out on the streets of New Hope. Officer Johnson grew up in the Andover area and is not too far from home working in New Hope.

Both officers have completed their field training and are now out on their own, patrolling the city of New Hope. Welcome to New Hope Officer Josh Eernisse and Officer Adam Johnson! We will continue to feature one or two officers in each upcoming issue of T.I.P.S. (A suggestion from one of our loyal readers.)





NEW HOPE PET REGULATIONS

Owning a pet can be one of the most satisfying experiences, but it comes with much responsibility. The Animal Control Program would like to remind all residents of the ordinances governing pets in the city. Please keep in mind that pets are considered personal property and the pet owner can be held liable for their pet's actions. Violations of city ordinances can result in citations and fines. If you have any questions please contact Animal Control at 763-531-5161. If you wish to report a violation that is occurring please call 911, and an available officer will be dispatched.



Leashing

Our pets enjoy, and require, daily exercise. A walk in the park is a great way for both owner and pet to exercise, but please remember that pets must be leashed when they are in any public area. When outside their owner's home, they have to be leashed or within a fenced yard or kennel. If they can crawl under or climb over the fence they must be leashed within the yard. Remember that pets that run loose can be lost, receive injuries from cars, people or other animals or pose a threat to other animals and

people. The city has established an off-leash dog areas in the hockey rinks at Civic Center, Lions, and Liberty Parks during the non-ice hockey seasons.

Excrement

Cleaning up after your pet may not be the most enjoyable activity, but no one appreciates seeing, smelling or stepping on your pet's business pile. Pet owners are required to pick up after their animal and dispose of the feces in a sanitary manner. This ordinance pertains to both the owner's property and public areas. Animal feces are not only unsightly and smelly, they may contain disease organisms that are transmittable to humans and other animals.

Noise

Pet owners must also prevent their animals from becoming a nuisance by excessively barking, howling or whining. We realize that some dogs will occasionally bark, but owners must work with their pet to keep the barking to a minimum.

Licensing

All dogs, cats and ferrets over six months of age and residing in New Hope must be current on their rabies vaccinations and be licensed. Pet owners may obtain a license at the New Hope Police Dept. Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm and Saturday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Mail-in license applications are available by calling Animal Control at 763-531-5161. The license must be renewed when the pet's rabies vaccination expires. We will attempt to return a stray pet with a license on its collar to the owner. If we cannot identify where the animal lives then the animal will be placed at our PUPS impound facility in Maple Grove (763-494-5999).

Lost or found pets

If you have lost your pet please report this to: Animal Control at 763-531-5170; PUPS impound facility 763-494-5999; and the Animal Humane Society at www.animahlhumanesociety.org. If you have found a stray pet, please call our dispatch at 763-525-6215 and an officer will be sent to pick up the animal.



Bites

The police department must be notified if your animal bites or attacks someone, or if you are bitten or attacked by an animal. If the bite breaks the victim's skin, the pet must be quarantined, at owner's expense, at the PUPS impound facility. The quarantine is for ten days to ensure that the animal was not afflicted with rabies at the time of the bite. You may call 911 or 763-525-6215 to report a bite.

For additional pet ordinance information please call or check the online City Code which is accessible via the city of New Hope web page



Nextdoor .com

The City of New Hope has worked with Nextdoor.com to set up neighborhood groups for the entire city of New Hope. Most of the areas are named for parks that are within the neighborhood. As of June many of the neighborhoods have successfully recruited neighborhood lead persons, and enough members to be considered officially "Launched." There are still a few groups that have no members or moderators. These areas include: Liberty, Victory and Begin. Elm Grove, Sunnyside, Sunny Hollow and City Center have very few members and are, therefore, still in "Pilot" status. (More members are needed to reach "Launch" status).

Whether you are in one of the inactive neighborhoods and want to get started, or are in one of the existing groups and have not been invited or received the information, you should be able to get involved in your group by going to the website Nextdoor.com. This is just one way to keep in touch with neighbors in your surrounding area and keep updated on what is happening in and around your neighborhood. Nextdoor refers to their site as a "Virtual Neighborhood Watch". This is one tool in our Neighborhood Watch toolbox. Neighborhood watch groups should be able to set up sub-groups for an individual neighborhood that are smaller than the neighborhoods set up by the City. Although the City is able to send information out to the different groups, the City is not actually able to be a member of any group other than the one that City Hall is located in, so discussions within the groups are not something the City contacts would have access to. If you need copies run for your Nextdoor.com invites you may get these done at City Hall. For National Night Out, New Hope's Night to Unite, or Neighborhood Watch, you may request copies at the Police Department. With all the available technology, don't forget to still connect with your neighbors for at least two meetings per year in person and remember to make sure your "unplugged" neighbors still get invited to all your neighborhood events.

SCAMS and FRAUD

.I often get phone messages and e-mails asking me if a particular item is a fraud or scam, and I just want to remind everyone that if a phone call, email, letter, text, or other communication seems like a fraud, or too good to be true, most likely it is. Here is a recent example:

A resident in our building called me to say she received a phone call from a man who claimed to be from Microsoft Windows. He proceeded to get enough info from her to gain access to her computer.

The question was whether this was an isolated incident, and unfortunately, it is not. There are many more examples from recent reports of a variety of different types of scams. Please DO NOT give information to unsolicited callers or people who contact you through other means. If something seems suspicious, or too good to be true, it likely is. Check it out before providing any information.

New Hope Crime Prevention

The New Hope Crime Prevention Fund has a new logo, and is excited to announce plans to launch a website this fall! For many years the Board has used McGruff on their mailings and literature, and although you'll still see McGruff, since he is one of the programs sponsored by the Board, the Board is excited to have a logo all their own. Watch for this logo in your mailbox this fall when the Board conducts its bulk-mail fundraiser. Website information will be included in the letter that goes out. The bulk mail fundraiser is the only fundraiser the Board will conduct in 2014. Money raised goes to support the many crime prevention programs in New Hope. The New Hope Crime Prevention Fund is a tax-exempt, public charity organization under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.





Neighborhood Watch Group #709 was the lucky winner of the \$150.00 gift card offered by The New Hope Crime Prevention Fund Board. The group was one of five groups that became eligible for the prize by hosting a second meeting during the months of May and June. The group held an ice cream social, organized a "Tech Dump" for neighbors to get rid of old tech items for recycling. The prize drawing was meant to encourage all Neighborhood Watch groups to get out for a second meeting. This is what is recommended for the success of a neighborhood watch. Lots can happen in a year's time, and it's important to stay connected. Thanks to the New Hope Crime Prevention Fund for making this possible. Congratulations to group #709 on receiving the award to use toward their National Night Out/ Night to Unite event on Tuesday, August 5.

Next T.I.P.S. Issue

The next issue of T.I.P.S. will be out in the Fall of 2014. If you have concerns, or would like more information on any topic featured, please contact Officer Korth at 763-531-5140.



SAVE THE DATE!

July 18-20

Duk Duk Daze

July 25

Kids, Cops & Firefighters (Crytal Mall)

August 5

National Night Out

August 12-14

Safety Camp

Crime Prevention Tip

Lock it, or Lose it! Lock up your car and take out your valuables, but also remember to put away bicycles, tools, lawn mowers, and other items in a secure location and out of sight. Once items are safely stored, remember to close and lock the garage and your other doors.



IT'S THE LAW!

HENNEPIN COUNTY CURFEW FOR JUVENILES

| AGE | WEEKDAYS | FRIDAY & SATURDAY |
|----------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Under 12 | Home by 9:00 p.m. | Home by 10:00 p.m. |
| 12-14 | Home by 10:00 p.m. | Home by 11:00 p.m. |
| 15-17 | Home by 11:00 p.m. | Home by MIDNIGHT |



The stats to the right are for the entire city of New Hope for the months of April, May, and June, 2014. If you have questions about your specific neighborhood, please check the online crime mapping feature accessible from the Police section of the City's web page, or contact Officer Korth at 763-531-5140 with your specific questions. As we learn our new records system, the appearance of any crime stats may change. The numbers to the right reflect only a portion of the Part 1 and Part 2 crimes we responded to during this time period and not any of the "non-crime" calls for service.

| DESCRIPTION | Apr-14 | May-14 | Jun-14 | Total |
|---|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| ASSAULT & AGGRAVATED ASSAULT | 5 | 11 | 5 | 21 |
| TERRORISTIC THREATS | 5 | 3 | 2 | 10 |
| DOMESTIC ASSAULT | 4 | 7 | 10 | 21 |
| BURGLARY | 3 | 2 | 11 | 16 |
| FORGERY | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| COUNTERFEIT MONEY | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| DRUGS | 5 | 14 | 5 | 24 |
| UNDERAGE DRINK/DRIVE | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| DWI | 17 | 13 | 20 | 50 |
| CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT | 2 | 2 | 0 | 4 |
| PROPERTY DAMAGE | 13 | 9 | 7 | 29 |
| ROBBERY | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| THEFT | 26 | 34 | 29 | 89 |
| MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT | 3 | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS | 0 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| WEAPONS OFFENSE | 1 | 6 | 0 | 7 |
| | 125 | 143 | 123 | 391 |

Wild Animals

If you feel that a wild animal is sick, injured, or has bitten a person, please call 911, and an officer will be sent to assist. If a wild animal has entered your house, Animal Control may be able to help remove it. Wild animals outside the house, however, are better left alone.

There are many techniques that you can use to persuade wild animals to stay away from your property:

- ◆ Be sure to remove any sources of food or shelter on your property;
- ◆ have secure caps on your chimney;
- ◆ place heavy gauge wire mesh around and under decks and sheds;
- ◆ remove or relocate wood and compost piles; do not leave pet food out overnight;
- ◆ if you feed birds, prevent mammals from accessing the feeder by using conical shaped baffles on the feeder pole and use only bird seed.

Please remember that it is illegal to discharge any firearm (including BB and pellet guns), slingshots, and bow and arrow within city limits. The use of poisons outside your house is also prohibited. Trapping the animal is not a suitable option since the animal must be humanely treated. If you trap a wild animal, you would need to find suitable habitat a good distance away to release it, and must obtain property owner permission (even government park managers) in order to relocate the animal. You may be helping spread diseases by moving the animals around. Animal Control can assist you in determining the best strategy for your yard. You can reach animal control at 763-531-5161 or tmahan@ci.new-hope.mn.us.





Checked Your Credit Lately?

It seems like every day in the news we hear about a new type of fraud or scam that could potentially cause us financial harm. As hard as many of us work to prevent crime each day, there are others who work just as hard to figure out how to defeat every security measure that is put in place to protect each of us. Hopefully you have taken seriously the recommendation to monitor your own accounts, and to be cautious of emails, mail, phone calls, and any other means of communication that may be used to phish your information. At some point you have probably been told to check your credit report once per year. If you have already figured out how to do this and have done so, you are probably doing a good job of monitoring your own accounts and can disregard the remaining paragraphs.

If you have planned to check your credit report, but have not followed through for one reason or another, there are several ways to get this done. You may submit your request online at: www.annualcreditreport.com.

AnnualCreditReport.com

The only source for your free credit reports. Authorized by Federal law.

There are some commercials out there that would lead you to believe there are other sites for this, but these sites are not free, and are usually connected to some sort of a pay service that you will be enrolled in if requesting your reports via the site. Again, be careful to make sure you have reached the correct site listed above. If the website is difficult to figure out, you may make your request by phone at **877-322-8228**. Before using either of these options you must be prepared with your personal and financial information, as you may need to answer a few questions to confirm your identity before you will be allowed to request the information. According to the website, these questions are intended to be difficult, so having your financial account information available to you may be necessary. There are three different credit reporting companies. The website says the following regarding whether to order them all at once or at different times:

“You are entitled to receive one free credit report every 12 months from each of the nationwide consumer credit reporting companies through the AnnualCreditReport.com request service. You can decide to order all three credit reports at the same time or order one now and others later. The advantage of ordering all three at the same time is that you can compare them. On the other hand, spreading out your requests can help you keep track of any changes or new information that may have been added to one or more of your reports.”

Keeping vigilant in tracking your accounts can help catch problems sooner. If you're not keeping track of your own accounts, you can be sure that someone else out there is, and may not have your best interest at heart.

Not All Crime is High Tech in this High Tech Age!

Not to worry, old fashioned crooks are still around. If you happen to leave something valuable sitting in plain view (or even hidden) in your vehicle, you are just plain lucky if you don't come back to a smashed window and stolen property. Theft from auto, theft of bikes left out in yards and garages, and theft of other items left out where others have easy access, is still one of the most common reports taken by officers at most any police department, New Hope included. Take the time to remove valuables from your car and lock it. Don't let thieves shop in your car or garage for items that belong to you and will be costly for you to repair or replace.

Planning ahead for safe travel



Before You Leave

- Make sure all doors and windows are securely locked.
 - Stop your mail and newspaper (or ask a trusted neighbor to pick them up daily).
 - Arrange to have the driveway & sidewalk shoveled.
 - Put timers on your lights, television or radio to turn them on and off at appropriate times each day.
- Notify a relative or trusted neighbor that you are leaving. Ask them to keep an eye on your home.
 - Don't use social media to discuss your trip until you get back.

Pack Against Crime

- Use traveler's checks or credit cards instead of cash whenever possible.
- Carry your wallet in an inside front pocket or a concealed money pouch.
- Don't weigh yourself down with excess baggage, pack only what you need.
- Use your business address on luggage tags.
- Put an additional identification label inside your luggage in case the exterior tag is lost.



At the Airport

- Watch your possessions carefully in crowded areas as they are prime hunting grounds for pickpockets.
- Never ask a stranger to watch your luggage.
- Be alert and organized.
- Avoid displaying expensive items such as cameras, jewelry, or designer luggage that may draw attention to you. Your aim is to blend in with the crowd.



At the Hotel

- Enter your hotel from the main entrance.
- Never open your hotel room to a stranger. If a visitor claims to be a hotel employee, call the front desk and ask for verification.
 - Keep your room key concealed. Avoid displaying it in public places.
 - Use the hotel safe deposit box to store valuables.
 - Make sure the hotel has a policy of never giving out anyone's room number.

Re-printed from the CrimeBytes newsletter, a publication of the Minnesota Crime Prevention Association