

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS

On behalf of our Community, once again I would like to thank members whose names appear as Block Captains on the Neighbourhood Watch "home page" attached with this issue of the Champlain Speaker. The police require that we have an active Watch in order to include us in the program. The Block Captains form the backbone of our watch structure. Our Community is among Ottawa's best in terms of crime statistics compared to other areas. Let us keep it up and maintain our peace and good environment.

The attached "home page" summarizes the information about our watch. Note the updated information about the area police office. It has moved from Richmond Road to 1329 Wellington Street (at Clarendon). Our police contact is Constable Alisson Moffat at 236-1222, ext 5871. Please retain the sheet for future reference as we may not be printing one for at least another year or more. I wish to thank Neil Robertson for creating such a good home page. Neil is also the most active person in working for the security of the neighbourhood, both in scanning the environment, the crime statistics and in working on the newsletter with Barb.

In case of emergencies, residents can be contacted via the respective block captains. It is therefore in the residents' interests to provide their block captains with their current telephone numbers.

May Christmas bring you peace and happiness.

Michael Cheng

Neighbourhood Watch is a program aimed at reducing crime in the community. It's based on the concept of good neighbours working together, alert to the potential for crime and willing to look out for one another's interests. Neighbourhood Watch combats crime in the most effective way - before it starts - by reducing the opportunities for crime to occur. A Watch signifies a group of neighbours bonded together with the objective of reducing or preventing crime within a defined locale. Our Watch covers the entire Champlain Park community.

Very few people are in a position to protect their homes and property all of the time. Vacations, business and shopping trips, or an evening out will leave your home temporarily unattended and vulnerable. Neighbourhood Watch works through mutual aid - neighbours watching out for neighbours. Your neighbours know who you are, when you are likely to be in or out, what type of car you own, and may be the first to notice a burglar at your window or door. A police officer patrolling your community wouldn't recognize a stranger in your yard - but your neighbours would.

For Neighbourhood Watch to be totally effective, each resident should take an active role in both security improvement and observation. People learn how to:

- make their homes less inviting as a target for thieves;
- participate in Operation Identification, making their personal property more difficult for burglars to dispose of;
- be alert to suspicious activity in their neighbourhoods;
- respond appropriately to potential threats.

Membership in a Watch is **not** about

- being a busybody
- being a vigilante

and does **not** involve

- time-consuming duties and obligations
- fees for service

Crime prevention is everybody's responsibility. It is important that we remain active in Neighbourhood Watch initiatives and activities. As time passes we may forget or become careless. There are many new residents in our community who may not be aware of the program. By now we have purchased new items to replace those previously marked or identified and have not taken the time to mark the new ones. It's too late after they have been stolen!

When to call the Cops: One of the hardest things for Watch members to learn is to trust their instincts. If it looks suspicious to you - don't hesitate - call the cops! Some people fear that raising a false alarm will reflect poorly on themselves, or on their Watch. Not so. It's okay to inform the police about something that "looks a bit fishy" on your Watch, and let them take it from there. (Anonymity may be requested.)

Look at the other side of the coin. How would you feel if you didn't call to report your suspicions, and, as a result, failed to prevent a criminal act in your neighbourhood?

Even when a crime has already been committed, some people are still reluctant to inform the police. Maybe they think it's not worth the "hassle" to report some graffiti or a stolen snow blower; maybe they're too embarrassed to admit that they lost money to a disappearing driveway paving salesman or a smooth-talking telemarketer. But these are exactly the sorts of crime that your neighbours and your Community Police Centre officer should be made aware of. If you don't want to call the police, then at least inform your Block Captain or Coordinator. If people are informed about crimes being committed in their neighbourhoods, they become more watchful and are less likely to be victimized.

How to call the Cops: Whether you're calling to report a crime in progress or just something that arouses your suspicion, remember the following Do's and Don'ts:

Do • identify yourself as a Watch member;

- be prepared to describe the persons, vehicles or circumstances as fully as possible, including license plate numbers, direction of travel etc.;
- ask for an "incident" number to facilitate a follow-up enquiry at a later date;
- record the time and date of your call;
- keep the suspects and incident under surveillance from a safe distance until police arrive;
- make a second call if the activity gets worse;
- inform your CPC officer and your Block Captain when time permits.

DON'T ATTEMPT APPREHENSION OR PURSUIT

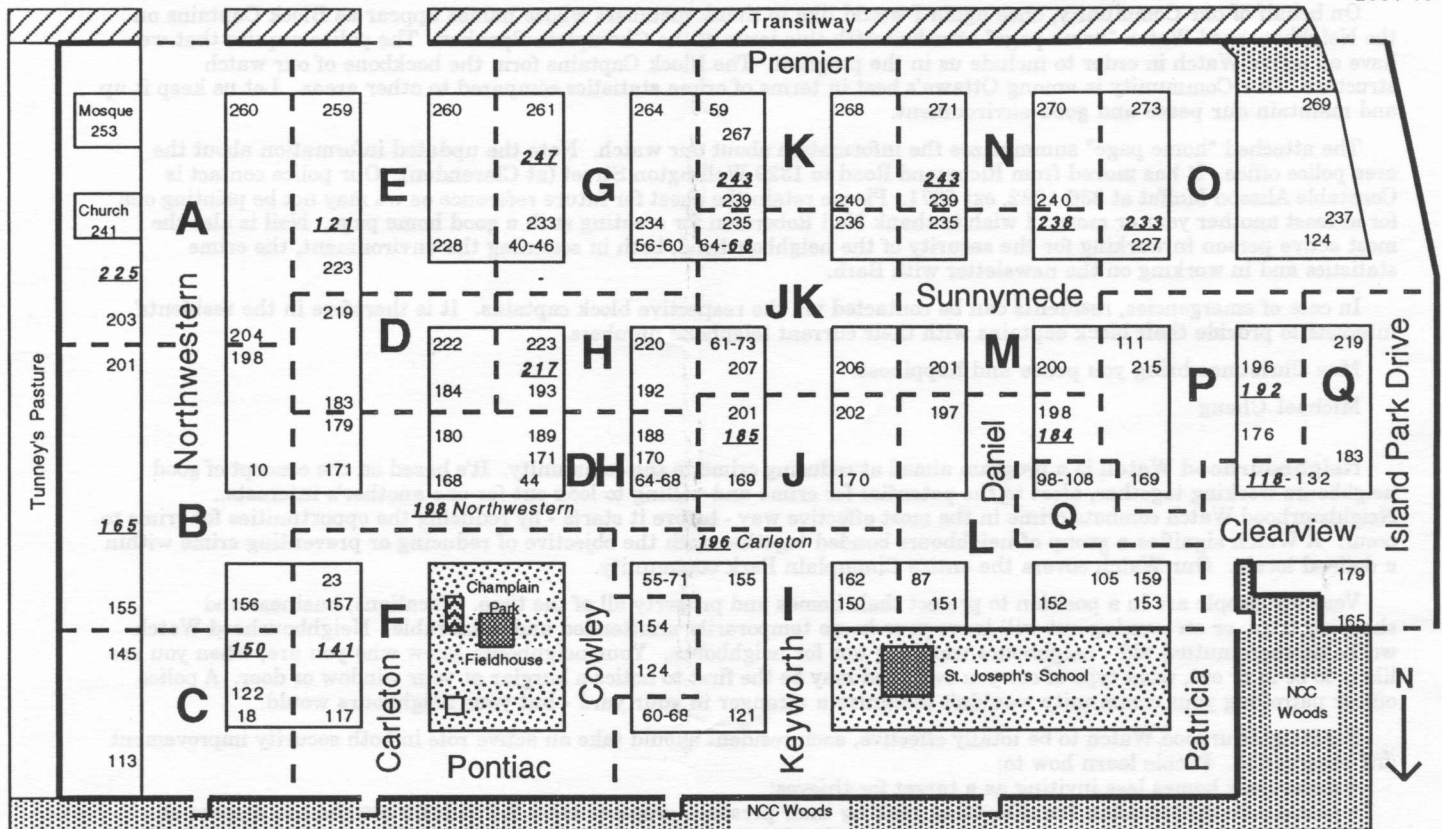
DON'T ATTEMPT TO CONFIRM YOUR SUSPICIONS by approaching a home or vehicle where a crime may have taken place, or may still be in progress. Go immediately to a safe distance, call 911, and wait for the police. If you approach the scene of a crime you may encounter a dangerous criminal, or destroy useful evidence. For example, tracking dogs of the Police Canine Unit can follow the trail of only the last person who was on the scene.

MAKE THE RIGHT CALL!

For Life-threatening emergency or crime in progress - dial 911

To report: a serious crime or break-and-enter, a suspicious incident or disturbance - 230-6211;
a theft, property damage, missing person or stolen vehicle - 236-1222 ext. 7300.

CHAMPLAIN PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH STRUCTURE District 23 Central West HOME PAGE 2001-10



The addresses of block captains are **highlighted**.

Block	Area Covered	Block Captain	Address	Telephone
A	203-253 & 204-260 Northwestern.	Jim and Linda McShane	225 Northwestern	798-1338
B	155-201 & 156-198 Northwestern, 10 Clearview.	Ben Svenhard	165 Northwestern	722-0993
C	113-145 & 122-150 Northwestern, 18 Pontiac.	Charlotte Wilson-Millar	150 Northwestern	761-1101
D	183-219 & 184-222 Carleton.	vacant		
DH	171-179 & 168-180 Carleton, 171-189 & 170-188 Cowley, 44-68 Clearview	Jackie Crawford	198 Northwestern	798-7342
E	223-259 & 228-260 Carleton	Richard Levis	121 Carleton	722-2599
F	117-157 Carleton, 124-154 Cowley, 23 Clearview and the Park	Nick Montero	141 Carleton	728-7545
G	233-261 & 234-264 Cowley, 40-60 Sunnymede.	Carol Arnason	247 Cowley	729-6639
H	193-223 & 192-220 Cowley.	Jacques Bourbeau	217 Cowley	728-0337
I	121-155 & 150-162 Keyworth, 55-71 Clearview, 60-68 Pontiac.	Jo-Ann Benn	196 Carleton	729-1346
J	169-201 & 170-202 Keyworth.	Verne Potvin	185 Keyworth	725-5423
JK	207-235 & 206-236 Keyworth, 61-73 & 64-68 Sunnymede.	Tom Sauve	68 Sunnymede	728-0191
K	239-267 & 240-268 Keyworth, 59 Premier.	Stephen Bancroft/Judith Lee	243 Keyworth	798-0448
L	151-197 & 152-198 Daniel, 87-105 Clearview, 153-159 Patricia.	Evelyn Sparks	184 Daniel	728-5552
M	201-235 & 200-238 Daniel.	Carole Copeland	238 Daniel	729-7824
N	239-271 & 240-270 Daniel.	Helen Joseph	243 Daniel	722-4088
O	227-273 Patricia, 237-269 Island Park, 124 Sunnymede.	Lynda Fancy	233 Patricia	725-1315
P	169-215 & 176-196 Patricia, 111 Sunnymede.	Karen Maser	192 Patricia	722-6700
Q	98-132 Clearview, 165-219 Island Park	Amy Kempster	118 Clearview	722-6039

For Life Threatening Emergency or Crime in progress .. Dial 911

Other emergencies or to report a serious crime, break & enter, suspicious incident or disturbance .. Dial .. 230-6211

Non-emergencies or to report a theft, property damage, missing person or stolen vehicle, dial the Call Centre .. 236-1222, ext. 7300

**Community Police Centre, 1329 Wellington St.
Telephone .. 236-1222, ext. 5870
Constable Allison Moffat .. 236-1222, ext. 5871**



Ottawa Police website: www.ottawapolice.ca

Crime stoppers .. 233-8477 (233-TIPS)

IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO:

- § make our homes secure
- § watch our neighbour's property
- § report any suspicious activities to the police

Your coordinators are:

Michael Cheng, 145 Carleton Ave., 722-3344
Nick Montero, 141 Carleton Ave., 728-7545
Neil Robertson, 220 Cowley Ave., 729-5439