



# CITIZENS ON WATCH

Volume 1, Issue 9

April 2013

## Goodyear Police Arrest Copper Theft Suspects

Goodyear Police arrested three suspects recently, who allegedly stole copper from the 18000 block of W. Desert Trumpet Rd. in Goodyear. Police were given a vehicle description from a block watch resident and the suspects were located traveling on Estrella Parkway, where they fled from officers. Phoenix helicopter along with a Goodyear K9 Officer were called to assist. Suspects were apprehended about 15 minutes after fleeing on foot. It is believed that these three suspects, one female and two males, may be tied to other related burglaries.

### Is Your Block Watch Working?

Recently residents were over heard discussing their block watch. They expressed concern people were not interested in the program and they could not get people to participate. Effective Block Watches do not need to have constant meetings or gatherings to be considered effective. These same residents described how they knew when individual neighbors would go to work or be on vacation. Their Block Watch was in full effect; it involves people of the neighborhood keeping a vigilant eye out for suspicious activity and reporting such activity to the police department.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

<b>HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR</b>	<b>APRIL 6</b>
<i>(AT THE GOODYEAR BALLPARK)</i>	
<b>YMCA TRIATHLON</b>	<b>APRIL 7</b>
<b>SKY KIDS EVENT</b>	<b>APRIL 13</b>

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## Goodyear Police New Narcotics Unit Make Large Marijuana Bust

Goodyear Police Department's new Narcotics Unit shut down a large marijuana growing operation on March 29th. A search warrant was executed at 6:30 am at the home on W. Beverly by Goodyear SWAT and K-9 units, assisted by DEA and Glendale SWAT team. The suspect, age 51, was arrested and charged with several felonies including possession of marijuana for sale, possession of production and possession of narcotics. 156 marijuana plants were discovered along with over 10 pounds of marijuana. He is being held on \$150,000 cash bond. The other 2 suspects are investigative leads and charges have not been filed. The new Goodyear Narcotics Unit has been training for the last 6 months with other police agencies. This is their first large bust.

## Cleveland Indians' Baseball Wives "Team Up" With Goodyear PD YANA Program

The Goodyear Police Department welcomed spring training to Goodyear Stadium. "We have enjoyed a great relationship with both the Cleveland Indians and the Cincinnati Reds. We are thrilled with the willingness of the Cleveland Indians' wives to give back to our community. This is an excellent representation of the positive relationship between the Indians Organization and the Goodyear Police Department," said Chief Geier. YANA is a Goodyear Volunteers in Policing Program which promotes peace of mind and a sense of security for elderly residents. It's a great resource for disabled seniors who enjoy the independence of living on their own, but have no friends or family members nearby to check on them regularly. According to Meryl Masterson, "we are members of the Cleveland Wives Association, and while we are here in Goodyear for Spring Training, we want to do something to give back to the community who welcomes us with open arms. We see this as an opportunity to help those in need."

## Vehicle Burglars Caught in the Act

Cancer Treatment Center of America's security reported a burglary just occurred from their property. The male and female suspects were in the process of loading an off-road vehicle into the back of a 5th wheel trailer when security confronted them. The female suspect drove off with the male suspect still in the 5th wheel trailer while the leveling jacks were still down causing sparks along the roadway. A good description was provided to officers who located the vehicle on I-10 at 107th Ave. Suspects were taken into custody thanks to the security officer calling the police immediately and provided an accurate description.

**That Call Could Kill You!**  
**Submitted by: Lisa Kutis, Goodyear Police PIO**

Don't answer...that call could kill you! Did you know that in 2010, 9% of all fatal motor vehicle crashes and 18% of injury crashes were due to distracted driving? Of those crashes, 13% were directly related to cell phone use! The largest group of distracted drivers is those under the age of 20.

Distracted driving is defined as, "any activity that could divert a person's attention away from the primary task of driving. All distractions endanger driver, passenger, and bystander safety. These types of distractions include:

- Texting
- Using a cell phone or Smartphone
- Eating and drinking
- Talking to passengers
- Grooming
- Reading, including maps
- Using a navigation system
- Watching a video
- Adjusting a radio, CD player, or MP3 player

But, because text messaging requires visual, manual, and cognitive attention from the driver, it is by far the most alarming distraction." <http://www.distraction.gov/content/get-the-facts/facts-and-statistics.html>

April is National Distracted Driving Awareness month and the Goodyear Police Department would like to remind the public, That Call Could Kill You! Make the decision to stop using your cell phone while driving. Here are some things you can do to make a difference:

- Do not use cell phones while driving
- Understand the dangers of cognitive distraction to the brain
- Do not accept calls from people who call you while driving
- Tell others about the dangers of cell phone distracted driving

According to the National Hwy Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA), texting while driving makes the driver 23 times more likely to crash, it slows breaking reaction time by 18% and is equal to driving blind for 5 seconds or the length of a football field. So, the next time you go to answer that call or send a text while driving, ask yourself...is that call worth my life or the lives of those around me?

**Resources:**

**TRAFFIC SAFETY FACTS**

Research Note <http://www.distraction.gov/download/research-pdf/2010FactSheet.pdf>

DOT HS 811 650 September 2012

<http://www.distraction.gov/content/get-the-facts/facts-and-statistics.html> [http://www.textinganddrivingsafety.com/texting-and-driving-stats/http://www.nsc.org/safety\\_road/Distracted\\_Driving/Pages/DDAM.aspx](http://www.textinganddrivingsafety.com/texting-and-driving-stats/http://www.nsc.org/safety_road/Distracted_Driving/Pages/DDAM.aspx)

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

*Q: Does Arizona require a motorcycle rider operator to wear a helmet?*

A: ARS 28-964 An operator or passenger of a motorcycle, all-terrain vehicle, or motor driven cycle who is under the age of 18 years of age shall wear at all times a protective helmet on the operator's or passenger's head in an appropriate manner. The operator shall wear at all times protective glasses or goggles or a transparent face shield unless motorcycle is equipped with a protective windshield of appropriate height.

*Q: If I changed my address on my driver's license with the DMV on-line, do I need to request an actual new license?*

A: No, your license is required to be updated with the Department of Motor Vehicles. You do not have to order a new license.

## Questions and Answers

*Q: Is it illegal to text while driving?*

A: No, however, texting while driving is very dangerous to you and the people around you. You can be pulled over for any traffic infraction you may commit as a result of not paying attention while texting.

*Q: Do I have to carry my license with me when I drive?*

A: ARS 28-3169 A licensee shall have a legible driver's license in the licensee's immediate possession at all times when operating a motor vehicle. On demand from a Justice of the Peace, a Police officer, deputy, or inspector of the department, a licensee shall display the license.

## How to Dispose of Sharps Containers

Objects such as needles, syringes, lancets and other sharp objects used for medical purposes should be placed in either a purchased medical sharps container (from a pharmacy or health care provider) or a heavy-plastic or metal container, such as a plastic laundry detergent container. The container should be puncture-proof with a tight-fitting lid. Household containers, such as heavy-plastic detergent bottles may be used **if the following precautions are observed:**

- ✓ Use heavy-duty tape, such as electrical or duct tape, to secure the lid to the container.
- ✓ Write the words "Not Recyclable" on the container with a black permanent marker. This helps to ensure the container is not inadvertently mingled in with recyclable materials.
- ✓ Do not use a clear container.
- ✓ Do not over-stuff the container with medical sharps (fill it only about 3/4 full). Overfilling can increase pressure on the lid and cause a release of the medical sharps.

Once you have followed these precautions, the container may be placed in your tan Goodyear refuse container for disposal. While waiting for a full container, keep it out of the reach of children and pets. Always wash your hands after handling or touching medical sharps.

**Thank you for helping preserve the quality of life in Arizona by following the recommended guidelines for disposal of home generated medical sharps.**