

# Drumheller and District Rural Crime

## Watch Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

DECEMBER, 2017

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Next meeting is February 21, 2018 at the BCF in Drumheller.

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## A Message From The New President

Good day. My name is Barrie Hoover and along with my wife Janice we live in the Northeast corner of our Crime Watch area. I believe as many of you that we live in a very safe and quiet neighborhood, although recently this has been tested increasingly and crime is moving closer. We were an unwilling partner where we had installed a framed walk-through gate in our pasture and sometime through the spring the gate seemed to disappear. The gate was quite heavy and had to be lifted over two barb-wire fences and through a deep ditch to get to their vehicle. I hope they did not **hurt** their backs. This is creating a huge change in the way we live. Doors are once again being locked and keys are being taken from vehicles. It used to be you could go anywhere around and you would never find a vehicle without keys plus enough equipment in the back to start a small business. Although on the plus side it has renewed more conversations between neighbors.

Just heard on the radio this morning, that 6 horses were found that had been stolen, and they thank

Facebook and users for their contribution in finding these animals. Everyone is using more media of all types, and in my opinion much too much personal information is passed, but it is getting everyone interacting and information is immediate. Our own crime watch has improved greatly using emails and texts, it is easier and faster to get information out.

Our next project coming to our area is signage, both physical and throughout multi-media. We are investigating cost of signs throughout our area, I believe signs help when anyone travels through our area, it might make them think twice about what might happen if they plan to help themselves to something that doesn't belong to them. Dorothy is doing a great job upgrading our internet and keeping membership informed. Memberships are due for the coming year and we will be asking interested members to keep up their dues and for those not wishing to continue of have retired or moved please let Dorothy know and we can get the list cleaned up.



### Christmas Ideas



## 2017 Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting was held November 22, 2017 at the Diana Restaurant. There was a good turnout .

We have a new President! Barrie Hoover has agreed to fill this position. We want to thank Steve

Wannstrom for dealing with the Presidential duties this year. Steve is still our Vice-President. Bill Eremko is the secretary and Howard McKee is the Treasurer.

We discussed the 2018 Spring Expo and we thought instead of hav-

ing a booth, we would do a BBQ on the Saturday. We will be needing volunteers for this and we will let you know the date as soon as we can.

The next meeting will be on February 21, 2018 at 7 pm at the BCF in Drumheller.

## Christmas Gift Ideas

Looking for ideas for Christmas gifts? Why not give the gift of security and safety for your family members and friends.

A web based security camera system would be a great gift. Another great idea would be an engraving tool. You can use this to mark your property with your name or some other form of identification so that if it is stolen and the police recover it, it will be easily identifiable. There are

doorbell cameras and locks that can be operated with your smart phone.

You could also buy an outdoor light that goes on automatically when someone comes close to your door. It's not only handy to deter criminals, its useful for you and your family when they are coming home at night. I have one that even has sound effects. Right now there is a very stern voice that says "You are trespassing". It

can get annoying but it might keep the criminals guessing. Even just having the light come on would be a deterrent.

Another good gift idea would be a membership in your local Rural Crime Watch Association. New members get a couple of signs to put up at their gate.

## Standing Up to Rural Crime

Our MP Kevin Sorenson sent out a newsletter this season which said it extremely well:

We are all too aware of the crime rate increase in our rural communities and many of you are wondering what you can do to stay safe. The Safe Communities organization suggest that we should:

Make Crime Prevention Week an annual reminder to do safety inspections of your property.

If machinery must be left out for long periods of time, disable them by removing the rotor, distributor or battery.

Secure all access roads with

gates or cables stretched between posts cemented into the ground; make them visible with bright flags or streamer, reflective material or tape.

Be sure to prune back shrubbery which may hide doors, windows or lights.

## Do You Know Your Address In Case of An Emergency?

How well do you maintain your calm in an emergency? When you phone 911 and they ask for your address, do you draw a blank or worse still, give them the wrong one?

One of the best things you can do to avoid that problem, is keep your address posted by your phone. If you can, store it in your cell

phone as well.

Diana Rowe is currently working on creating an address magnet for Starland County residents. It will have a spot to write your legal address and your civic address or rural address as well as your phone number. The RCMP 24 hour dispatch numbers for the Hanna and Drumheller detachments will

also be on it.

Another tip is to contact Telus and ask them what address they have listed for your residence. It is amazing how many addresses are wrong. The address that is listed for Telus is the one used by the 911 dispatch.

It's the precautions we take prior to an emergency that can help save lives during one.

## What Kind of Grinch Drives A Red Corvette?

Recently, in Richmond, BC, a man driving a red Corvette was caught on camera stealing a package off of someone's front doorstep. This has become a regular occurrence and it's hard to know what to do about it.

Sometimes, the thieves follow the delivery truck while it is making its rounds and after a delivery is made, they watch to see if anyone comes

to the door to take the parcel inside.

Police advise consumers to pay close attention to the delivery date for their package and make arrangements to be home or to have a neighbor accept it, have the item delivered to another address or request a signature before it's dropped off.

If it's delivered by Canada Post and you have a super mailbox, you will get a card to go pick it up at the post office.

So if you are ordering that new security camera system, just hope the thieves don't get it before you do.

## Horse Rustlers on the Prowl

Usually we are reporting stolen trucks but this time it's a report on a theft of horses in Wetaskiwin County. Six horses were stolen from a ranch between Buck Lake and Winfield.

They were missing for over a week until someone working at a gas plant noticed the horses on a lease off a back road between Rocky

Mountain House and Buck Lake.

One of the horses was a show jumper. The total value of the horses is close to \$100,000.

This incident is a prime example of how important Rural Crime Watch is. The person who saw the horses was probably not a member of a Crime Watch Association but for those of us who are members, it is

important to remember that we need to keep our eyes open to unusual activity and tell someone about it. You never know who you may be helping.

Remember to report any suspicious activity that you may see to the RCMP non-emergency number (403-823-2630) or 911 if it is an emergency.



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| Emergency: 911  
| RCMP Non-Emergency #: 403-823-2630  
| Report A Poacher: 1-800-642-3800

## THE LAST WORD

The other day, I was parked behind a van. The driver opened the back hatch and then went to get the boxes they were putting in the van. They were gone for about 5 minutes. When they came back, they loaded two wooden boxes into the back of their van and then they went to get the rest of their stuff, still leaving the back hatch open with the two boxes inside. Well by then, I felt obligated to “guard” the van until their return. It only takes a minute for someone to steal your vehicle or your possessions. Please remember to lock your vehicle, don't leave your children in the vehicle unattended for even a second, don't leave packages where people can see them. Just be safe!

# How To Contact Us

Thanks to our friends at Netago in Hanna, we now have email addresses for our executive and zone captains.



### General Mailbox

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### Executive

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