



HUNTINGTON BEACH
**NEIGHBORHOOD
WATCH
NEWSLETTER**



Date: **November 2010** Vol. **38** No. **11**

POLICE/FIRE EMERGENCY	911	Information Desk	714 960-8843
NON-EMERGENCY/DISPATCH	714 960-8825	Graffiti Hot Line	714 960-8861
POLICE Business Line	714 960-8811	Neighborhood Watch- Nilda Berndt	714 536-5933
Vacation House Checks (RSVP)	714 374-1507	Layout/Graphic Design	Tom Gaccione
Website	www.hbpd.org	E-mail	nberndt@hbpd.org

Compiled by Nilda Patiño de Berndt, HBPD Community Relations Specialist

OCTOBER DONATION UPDATE

The Huntington Beach Neighborhood Watch Program (HBNW) **fiscal year** is from July 1 to June 30 each year. We have estimated we will need approximately \$25,000 this year to cover the various HBNW program expenses which include, but are not limited to, newsletter assembly, distribution costs, returned postage, mailing labels, etc. From the start of our fiscal year to now, we have received **\$4,722.99 in donations and newsletter advertisements- we have \$20,277.01 to go** by June 30, 2011. The HBNW Board thanks you and our advertisers for your support and generous donations. A \$6 donation pays for each subscriber's distribution costs; a \$10 donation helps with these costs and other needed expenses and puts your name in the Newsletter as a contributor; and a \$25 or more donation accomplishes the above, plus you will receive a HBNW sticker and a token of appreciation. Remember, HBNW is a non-profit organization; **donations are tax deductible.**

As a resident of the city, we encourage you to review the HBNW program budget and expenses.

We strongly suggest you sign up to receive your Newsletter either **electronically** or through the mail. The Newsletter has valuable crime prevention information and crime statistics. Donations are not necessary to receive the Newsletter, but if you wish to make a donation, please make your check payable to:

HB NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

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

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

For more information please call (714) 536-5933.



**SAFETY TIPS FOR
HOLIDAY LIGHTS**

- Indoors or outside, use only lights that have been tested for safety by a recognized testing laboratory, which indicates conformance with safety standards. Use only lights that have fused plugs.
- Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections, and throw out damaged sets. Always replace burned-out bulbs promptly with the same wattage bulbs.
- Use no more than three standard-size sets of lights per single extension cord. Make sure the extension cord is rated for the intended use.
- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree. The tree can become charged with electricity from faulty lights, and a person touching a branch could be electrocuted.
- Before using lights outdoors, check labels to be sure they have been certified for outdoor use.
- Stay away from power or feeder lines leading from utility poles into older homes.
- Fasten outdoor lights securely to trees, house walls, or other firm supports to protect the lights from wind damage. Use only insulated staples to hold strings in place, not nails or tacks. Or, run strings of lights through hooks (available at hardware stores).

(continued on page 2)

Safety Tips for Holiday Lights

(cont from page 1)

- Turn off all holiday lights when you go to bed or leave the house. The lights could short out and start a fire.
- Use caution when removing outdoor holiday lights. Never pull or tug on lights - they could unravel and inadvertently wrap around power lines.
- Outdoor electric lights and decorations should be plugged into circuits protected by ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs). Portable outdoor GFCIs can be purchased where electrical supplies are sold. GFCIs can be installed permanently to household circuits by a qualified electrician.



The WRAP Vehicle Deterrent Device

Recently HBPD acquired a few portable vehicle security systems (steering wheel locks) known as the WRAP. The WRAP is an innovative Vehicle Theft Deterrent that mounts easily to the steering wheel and offers a number of features.

The WRAP is used to complement hard-wired vehicle security systems and advertise that if your vehicle has a WRAP on the steering wheel it is likely that the vehicle is equipped with other security systems.

We have decided to make them available to our residents (proof of residence will be required); one per household. We have a very limited supply to distribute. If you would like one of these steering wheel locks please call Nilda Berndt, HBPD Community Relations Specialist, at 714-536-5933 to reserve one.

We extend our appreciation to the City of Commerce for providing us with the WRAP. This does not imply endorsement of this product.



Huntington Beach Neighborhood Watch wishes you a Happy Thanksgiving!



If Your Personal Information Has Been Lost or Stolen

If you've lost personal information or identification, or if it has been stolen from you, you can minimize the potential for identity theft if you act quickly.

- **Financial Accounts:** Close accounts, like credit card and bank accounts, immediately. When you open new accounts place passwords on them. Avoid using your mother's maiden name, your birth date, the last four digits of your SSN or your phone number, or a series of consecutive numbers.
- **Social Security number:** Call the toll-free fraud number of any of the three nationwide consumer reporting companies and place an **initial fraud alert** on your credit reports (this will stay on your credit report for 90 days; then you can determine if an extended alert is needed). An alert can help stop someone from opening new credit accounts in your name.
- **Driver's license/other government –issued identification:** Contact the agency that issued the license or other identification document. Follow its procedures to cancel the document and to get a replacement. Ask the agency to flag your file so that no one else can get a license or any other identification documents from them in your name.

Once you have taken these precautions, watch for signs that your information is being misused or that your identity has been stolen.

If your information has been misused, file a report about the theft with the police and file a complaint with the FTC as well. If another crime was committed – for example, if your purse or wallet was stolen or your house or car was broken into – report it to the police immediately.



As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.
~John Fitzgerald Kennedy



HYPD's Bunco- Forgery Unit

By Sgt Greg Davis

The Huntington Beach Police Department's Bunco-Forgery Unit is part of the Police Department's Investigation Division. The "B.F.U." has a sergeant, five detectives, and two civilian investigators working on all types of economic crimes. These types of crimes include major frauds, financial elder abuse, identity-theft, forgeries, credit card fraud, embezzlements, counterfeiting, non-sufficient fund checks, and any other thefts by false pretences, deceit, scheme, or swindle. Additionally, we have another detective and civilian investigator as part of our High-Tech Crimes Unit. They assist the B.F.U. and other detectives in the Department and are responsible for computer forensics and analysis of suspect computers, cell phones, and other high-tech devices. **The B.F.U. is responsible for investigating an average of 1,200 cases per year.**

Staying Safe in the 21st Century:

In today's high-tech environment, many people believe it is unsafe and risky to put their personal information out via the Internet. But going online is not, in and of itself, an unsafe action. The Internet is actually a more secure way to make purchases and complete business transactions than passing a written check at the market or sending a check in the mail. Although the Internet is secure, it is true that numerous schemes and deceitful acts have occurred using the Internet. Here are some ways to keep yourself safe using your computer:

1. Make sure your operating system, antivirus, and anti-spyware programs are up to date with all the security updates in place. Run daily scans and have the programs actively scan while you are using the computer.
2. Use a secure network and secured wireless networks. Do not access your email or go online from public computers/hotels/airports unless you use secure remote software.
3. NEVER respond to unsolicited emails or offers. If possible, you should not open junk email. Just delete it.
4. When making a purchase online, make sure the site is secure. The beginning of the web site address should start with "https" and not just "http." The "s" means it is secure. There should

also be a picture of a padlock on the screen as well. If the lock is closed, the site is secure.

5. Always use escrow-type accounts when making purchases on-line (like PayPal). Make sure to utilize the company's security features. Never bypass the security features and wire money to the seller.
6. If you get an email from a bank, ebay, or other similar site asking questions about your account—NEVER respond or click on the links within the email. NEVER give them any personal information or passwords. Close the email and contact the institution by phone or by connecting to the site that you directly use to conduct your business.
7. Maintain records of all your transactions (print your receipts).
8. Do not use the same password for different accounts. Use passwords that involve alphanumeric characters.

Bunco Scams:

There are literally hundreds of ways criminals attempt to swindle people out of their money. Many are via email on the Internet, but some are carried out in person. They range from Nigerian scams to Ponzi schemes. A popular scam right now is the "secret shopper" employment opportunity. The suspect asks the victim to evaluate the service of a store providing wire transfers like Wal Mart. The suspect sends the victim a check to cash for the victim's salary, money to spend as the "shopper," and a large amount to be wired back to the "employer" evaluating the services of the store. Several days later, the victim will discover the original check was not good and will be out several hundred dollars. Beware of offers that appear too good to be true. If someone is offering you a job for your services, you should never have to send them money. This is a big red flag and you should discontinue doing business with the person.

More information to help prevent you from becoming a victim will be available in future newsletters.

If you are a victim or believe you might be a victim call the police and report it immediately. Your actions may help to prevent someone else from becoming a victim.

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES, VEHICLE BURGLARIES, GRAND THEFT AUTO

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

38 entries Sept. 16 – Oct. 15
33 entries Aug. 16 – Sept. 15

Nineteen of the entries were due to **OPEN OR UNLOCKED** windows or doors. Thirteen of these burglaries were committed during the day, seven were committed at night, and eighteen were committed at an unknown time.

There were four garage entries.

There were four attempted entries.

There were two storage unit entries

VEHICLE BURGLARIES

50 reported Sept. 16 – Oct. 15
61 reported Aug. 16 – Sept. 15

GRAND THEFT AUTO

27 reported Sept. 16 – Oct. 15
26 reported Aug. 16 – Sept. 15

BEAT 2

2 Residential Burglaries
6 Vehicle Burglaries
0 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 465-1 RD 467-1

Streets: Power Dr., and Dana Dr.

There was one attempted entry.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 475-1 RD 476-4
RD 486-1

Grand Theft Auto

None reported

BEAT 3

2 Residential Burglaries
3 Vehicle Burglaries
1 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 444-1 RD 446-1

Streets: Midbury Dr., and Vicksburg Dr.

There was one garage entry.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 445-1 RD 446-2

Grand Theft Auto

RD 445-1

BEAT 4

3 Residential Burglaries
2 Vehicle Burglaries
3 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 432-1 RD 442-1
RD 452-1

Streets: Applecross Ln., Huntington St., and Frankfort Ave.

In RD 432, Applecross Ln.; Suspect is possibly known.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 452-1 RD 462-1

Grand Theft Auto

RD 432-1 RD 452-1
RD 462-1

BEAT 5

1 Residential Burglary
2 Vehicle Burglaries
2 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 436-1

Streets: Moore Cr.

In RD 436, Moore Cr.; Suspect described as; male, white, mid to late 20's, height 6', clean shaven, wearing a dark cap or beanie, and a dark sweatshirt.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 426-1 RD 427-1

Grand Theft Auto

RD 425-1 RD 436-1

In RD 425 this was an attempted GTA

BEAT 6

11 Residential Burglaries
7 Vehicle Burglaries
6 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 339-2 RD 349-3
RD 359-1 RD 441-1
RD 451-3 RD 461-1

Streets: Pacifica Cr., Presidente Dr., 18th St., 19th St., Pacific Coast Hwy., 13th St., 20th St., 7th St., 15th St., and 3rd St.

In RD 339, Pacifica Cr.; Suspect is possibly known.

In RD 339, Presidente Cr.; Suspect is possibly known.

In RD 349, 18th St.; A key was possibly used to gain entry.

In RD 349, 18th St.; Suspect is possibly known.

In RD 349, 19th St.; Suspect entered through an open bedroom window.

In RD 441, 13th St.; Suspect described as: Male, Hispanic, 30 – 40 years old, height approximately 5'8" – 5' 10", average build, bald wearing a black long sleeve sweater or sweatshirt, dark shorts below the knees, white socks, and black work boots.

In RD 451, 20th St.; Victim believes suspect gained entry by removing the screen from a window that was left slightly open.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 348-2 RD 349-2
RD 359-2 RD 451-1

Grand Theft Auto

RD 348-1 RD 451-5

In RD 348 this was an attempted GTA

BEAT 7

3 Residential Burglaries
0 Vehicle Burglaries
2 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 292-1 RD 293-1
RD 413-1

Streets: Ellis Ave., Forelle Dr., and Vallarta Dr.

In RD 292, Ellis Ave.; Suspect is in custody.

In RD 413, Vallarta Dr.; Suspect described as: male, Middle Eastern 30 years old, height 5'11" to 6', weight 175 lbs., thin build, short brown hair and brown eyes.

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES, VEHICLE BURGLARIES, GRAND THEFT AUTO

There was one attempted entry.

Vehicle Burglaries

None reported

Grand Theft Auto

RD 292-1 RD 413-1

BEAT 8

2 Residential Burglaries

7 Vehicle Burglaries

2 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 179-2

Streets: Warner Ave., and Goldenwest St.

In RD 179, Warner Ave.; Suspect(s) entered through a closed but unlocked window.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 176-1 RD 179-2

RD 199-2 RD 281-2

Grand Theft Auto

RD 178-1 RD 281-1

BEAT 9

3 Residential Burglaries

7 Vehicle Burglaries

2 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 263-1 RD 283-1

RD 293-1

Streets: Potter Cr., and Van Buren Ln.

In RD 263, Potter Cr.; Suspect(s) enter an open garage and steal a BMX bicycle that was not locked and secured.

In RD 283, Van Buren Ln.; Suspect(s) used bolt cutters to cut the lock off the garage and steal a motorcycle that was inside.

There were three garage entries.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 263-2 RD 272-3

RD 273-1 RD 283-1

Grand Theft Auto

RD 283-2

BEAT 10

2 Residential Burglaries

3 Vehicle Burglaries

4 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 175-2

Street: Hampton Ln., and Green Ln.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 151-2 RD 164-1

Grand Theft Auto

RD 151-1 RD 165-2

RD 174-1

BEAT 11

3 Residential Burglaries

4 Vehicle Burglaries

0 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 159-1 RD 166-1

RD 169-1

Streets: Edgemont Dr., Moody Cr., and Fountain Ln.

In RD 166, Moody Cr.; Suspect(s) enter through a closed but unlocked front door.

There was one attempted entry

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 166-1 RD 167-2

RD 169-1

Grand Theft Auto

None reported

BEAT 12

2 Residential Burglaries

1 Vehicle Burglary

2 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 137-1 RD 139-1

Streets: Bolsa Ave., and Yorkshire Ln.

In RD 137, Bolsa Ave.; Victim went to his storage unit and noticed the lock had been changed. When he had management cut it off for him he found someone had entered and ransacked his belongings.

In RD 137, Yorkshire Ln.; It is believed the house alarm scared off the suspect.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 149-1

Grand Theft Auto

RD 137-1 RD 148-1

BEAT 13

4 Residential Burglaries

8 Vehicle Burglaries

3 Grand Theft Auto

Residential Burglaries

RD 232-1 RD 261-2

RD 262-1

Streets: McFadden Ave., Toulouse Dr., Maddox Dr., and Southlake Dr.

In RD 232, McFadden Ave.; Suspect(s) break into storage unit, remove items, and lock up using a different lock.

In RD 261, Maddox Dr.; Suspect is possibly known.

Vehicle Burglaries

RD 241-2 RD 242-3

RD 251-2 RD 253-1

Grand Theft Auto

RD 241-1 RD 251-1

RD 262-1

WORKING TO BUILD A SAFER COMMUNITY

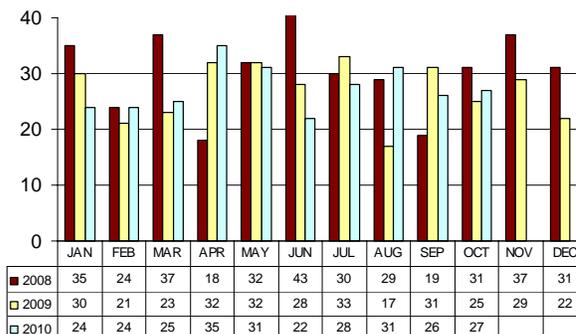
The RSVP's and Neighborhood Watch Board members work together with the police department to provide many crime prevention and safety programs FREE of charge. We hope you will use these services to help keep you and your family safe.

RSVP's: *Provide Vacation House Checks* by check your home when you're away. To use this service, please go to our web site at **hbpd.org** and click on "Vacation House Checks". Complete and submit the form or call the RSVP office at 714-374-1507. Please allow 5 to 7 working days to process your request.

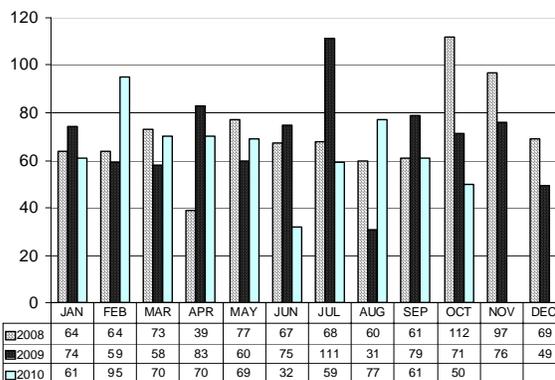
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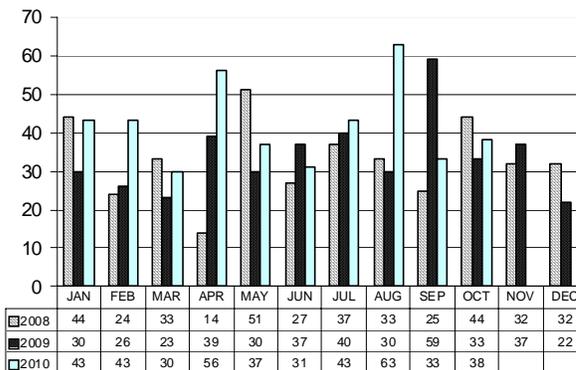
GRAND THEFT AUTO



VEHICLE BURGLARIES



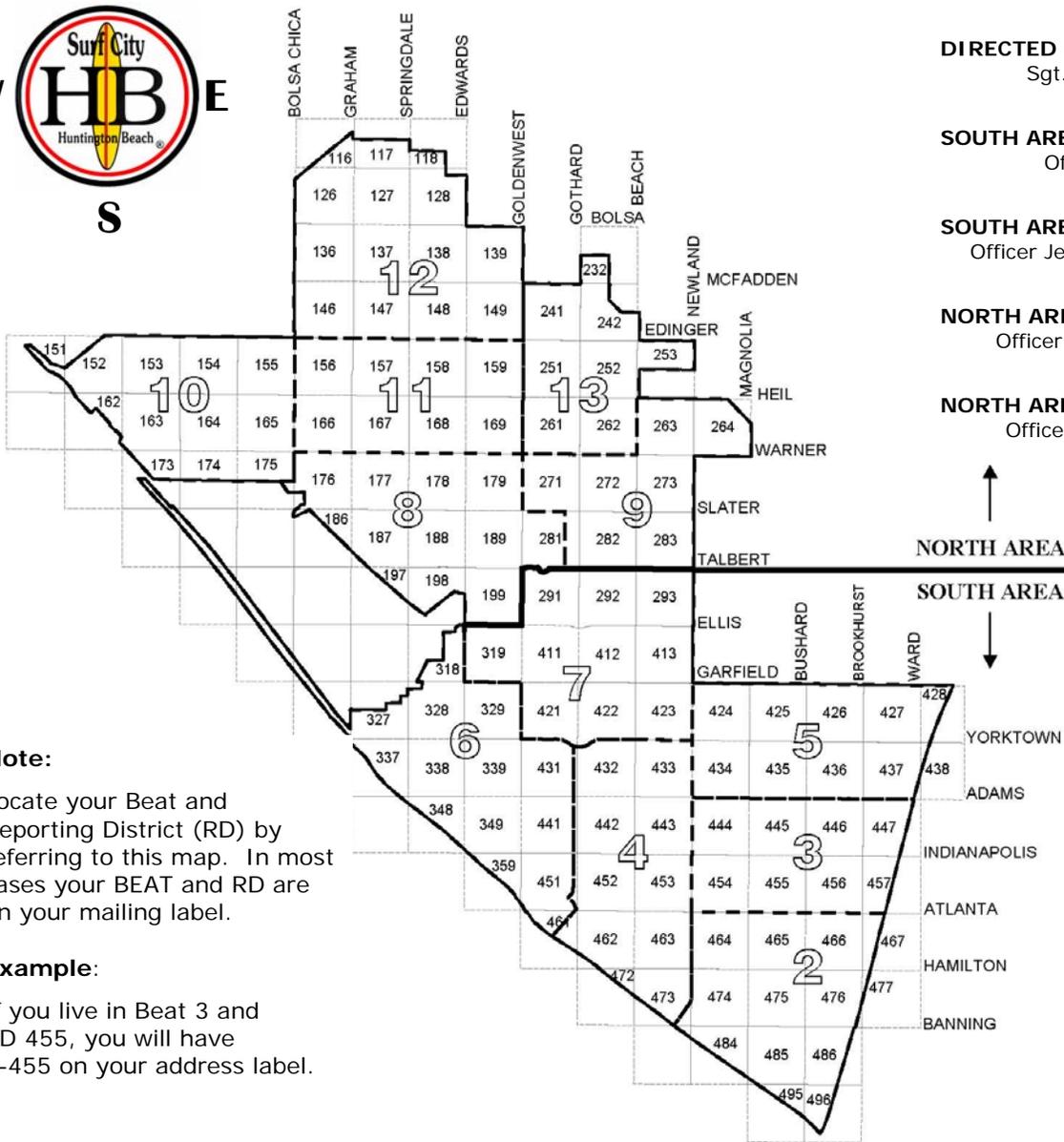
RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES



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 Officer Rich Eidlhuber (714) 375-5140
 e-mail: reidlhuber@hbpd.org

Note:

Locate your Beat and Reporting District (RD) by referring to this map. In most cases your BEAT and RD are on your mailing label.

Example:

If you live in Beat 3 and RD 455, you will have 3-455 on your address label.

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