



# Menomonee Falls NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Established 1986 *Tying The Community Together*

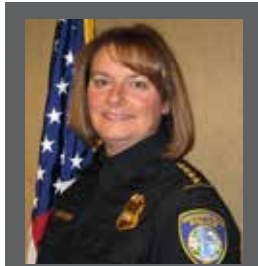
MENOMONEE FALLS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH ~ MENOMONEE FALLS, WI ~ Winter 2013

VISIT US AT:  
[www.mfnw.org](http://www.mfnw.org)

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2011 RECIPIENT of the  
**"All Star Award"**  
from the  
National Association of  
Town Watch (NATW)  
organization



A Message from  
**THE CHIEF**

Dear Neighborhood Watch Captains and Members,

As 2013 comes to an end, I wanted to take a little different approach to my normal newsletter message. First off I would like to thank everyone who either had or participated in the block parties during National Night Out this year. We had three caravans of police and fire that visited 15 parties throughout Village neighborhoods. Everyone was having a great time and the parties really represented what the Village community is all about. This year we had to take a step back from the Safety Fair and instead had Fire Station open houses throughout September and into October. Many people enjoyed coming to their neighborhood station and meeting with the firefighters. Next year we are looking to have a National Night Out Safety Fair and continue with the block party tradition. Look for more to come on those events next year.

Instead of talking about the usual crimes and tips for the holiday season, I would like to highlight just a few instances when your police department did some awesome work in keeping the community safe. Many of you may have heard of the late night robbery that occurred at Mc Donald's. I am happy to report that officers, through intense investigation identified the suspects. They were also responsible for several robberies in surrounding municipalities. The suspects were arrested in Milwaukee. It was the work by the MF police department that caused the case to be picked up by the US Attorney's office and prosecuted on a federal level. The department members involved in the case were Police Officers Gruszynske, Holz, Meyer, Palmer, Detectives Babler and Cybell, and Sgt. Tuskiewicz.

A few weeks ago, there was a robbery at the CVS. Suspects got into a vehicle and fled south on Appleton to escape the Village. The robbery occurred at 8:07am. MFPD officers had three suspects in custody by 8:16am after chasing them into Milwaukee. The team worked well together from the vehicle pursuit through obtaining confessions. Officers were quick, diligent, and worked with coordinated efforts to maintain safety for all and apprehend the felony suspects. The officers in this case were Police Officers Bowen, Duffy, Hansen, McChesney, Uebersohn, Detective Cybell, and Sgt. Douglas.

Last holiday season there was a suspect passing counterfeit \$100 bills throughout the community. He tried to pass one at a location where Police Aide was visiting. The police aide was able to follow the suspect and report his location on the radio. Officers were able to stop and arrest the suspect, who was charged federally by the U.S. Attorney. There would have been many other businesses as victims had the officers not worked so diligently to arrest the suspect and put together a solid investigation. The other department members involved were Police Officers Helland, Henning, Palmer, Stein, Det. Cybell, and Sgt. Birler.

Our K-9, Tyson and his handler, Officer Harding recently received two awards at the State K-9 Officers conference. One was for the best find this past year when PO Harding and Tyson were able to track down a kidnapper who fled on foot after Officers Schroeder and Helland stopped his vehicle that had come south from Fond du Lac. Officer Scott Henning was also involved. The officers made sure the children were safe while the K-9 unit pursued the suspect. The children were happily reunited with their mother. Tyson also received an award for the best narcotics finds during the training conference.

Neighborhood Watch is an extension of the police department and as citizens of the Village you can be proud that you have a professional, dedicated, and diligent police department. I want to wish you all a Blessed, safe and joyous holiday season.

Sincerely,

*Chief Anna M. Ruzinski*

# A SALUTE AND A WAVE

# THE PRESIDENTS' Corner

Because we care, we are members of MFNW Neighborhood Watch in the Falls. We care to take responsibility for the safety and security of our families, homes, neighbors and neighborhood and to assist the efforts of our police.

And so, **a Salute**. A Salute to the men and women of MFPD who have helped us become one of the safest small towns in the USA.

And another. **A Salute** to the Block Captains and Co-Captains who give of their time to keep neighbors "in the loop", pass out Newsletters, keep a watchful eye and ear and come out to membership meetings to participate in MFNW leadership a few times a year. And whose efforts bring us national recognition!

And another. **A Salute** to the Executive Board, past and present, for sharing their talent, energy and time after the newsletters are distributed, who sit down to plan the next meeting, the next fundraiser or the next activity of support for the PD. As a side note, the Board will have at least 3 seats up for election this month. The three newest members have been elected in just the last 11 months and added fresh faces are welcome!

And finally, **the Wave!** To all members of our community; as you see our police officers on patrol around town or in your neighborhood share a wave and a smile to let them know you appreciate their presence!

Lastly, as we race towards Thanksgiving and the Holidays, **a Salute** and **a Wave** to the citizens and businesses of Menomonee Falls for your continued support of MFNW. Tying the Community Together, Indeed!

*Fred Wordell*



## A JOINT RESPONSIBILITY

You might ask .... isn't it the police department's job to reduce crime? The answer is yes, however it is unrealistic to think that the police can do it alone. The prevention of crime, particularly crime involving residential neighborhoods is the responsibility that must be shared equally by law enforcement and residents of Menomonee Falls. The fact is, the impact on crime prevention by law enforcement alone is minimal when compared with the strength of private citizens working with law enforcement and each other. YOU are the eyes and ears of the village. Neighborhood Watch is based on the concept of cooperation; nation-wide statistics prove that it works. When citizens take positive steps to secure their own property and neighbors learn how to report suspicious activity around their homes, burglary and related offenses decrease dramatically. When neighbors know each other, neighborhoods are safer.



## CRIME PREVENTION TIPS FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

- ▲ When parking your vehicle to go shopping, remember where you parked it! Always park in a well lit and well traveled area. Do not park in a remote dark area.
- ▲ When you return to your vehicle, scan the interior of your car to be sure no one is hiding inside. Check to see if you are being followed.
- ▲ Have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle. You will be ready to unlock the door and will not be delayed by fumbling and looking for your keys.
- ▲ When storing items purchased at the stores, place them out of sight. The best place is in a locked trunk.
- ▲ Do not leave your purse, wallet, or cellular telephone in plain view.
- ▲ Don't resist if someone tries to take any of your belongings. Don't chase someone who robs you, they may have a weapon. Instead call 911.
- ▲ Lock your vehicle and put up your windows even while you are driving.
- ▲ If you go to an automatic teller machine for cash, check for people around and make sure it is well lit and in a safe location.
- ▲ Carry only the credit cards you need and avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- ▲ If you make a purchase with your credit card, be sure to obtain the carbons or see that they are destroyed in front of you.
- ▲ Beware of the "a good deal" scams. Things are not always what they appear to be.
- ▲ If you are purchasing toys for small children, be sure that they are safe. You will be surprised what a small child can swallow or what can injure them.
- ▲ Drive defensively. Traffic is heavier during the holidays. Drivers may also have indulged in too much holiday spirits.

## WHY WE RAISE MONEY



Neighborhood Watch goes well beyond the norm for similar organizations, and has for several years. What we mean by that is we make extraordinary efforts to raise and distribute funds. Your board and members spend inordinate amounts of their personal time soliciting by mail and in person monies from local businesses, collecting aluminum cans and running a very successful Silent Auction. (This year's Silent Auction was by-far the most successful since we started doing them.) We also help our friends in the Falls Optimist Club at their Fish Derby by running the concession stand. Our thanks to this fine organization for allowing us this opportunity to generate funds.

Over the years, money collected from these efforts has been distributed in various ways and to various organizations. The recipients of our donations have included Waukesha County Crimestoppers, The Fire Department's Support group, The Kindling, The Police and Fire Scholarship Fund and others. We regularly reward local youth with our Youth Awards.

Having these resources allows us to foster events in the community such as National Night Out and The Youth Leadership Conference. The one additional event that stands out is the Annual Police Memorial Service. Each Memorial Day weekend we proudly join with the village and help provide funding to continue this most important recognition of fallen police officers.

Due to the judicious exercising of our fiduciary responsibilities and aggressive fundraising, our resources have grown in the last few years. As we head into 2014, your Menomonee Falls Neighborhood Watch is in a good financial position to continue to make positive impacts on the community.

Our special thanks to these businesses who generously gave of their resources to us this year:

- ▲ CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY BANK
- ▲ HANSON SOFT WATER WORKS
- ▲ BRISCO COUNTY RESTAURANT
- ▲ TRICOM FUNDING
- ▲ ANCHOR BANK

*Special Recognition* is due to Mary Metzger, Cornerstone Community Bank VP who has not only been generous monetarily, but also in being with us in spirit. And, yes, they are our bank.



## Your MENOMONEE FALLS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Fred Wordell, *President*. . . . .414-940-3733  
 Michelle Lilly, *Vice President*. . . . .414-581-4306  
 Lowell Carl, *Treasurer*. . . . .414-640-5023  
 Dennis Farrell, *Secretary*. . . . .262-251-1281  
 Barb Hilbert, *Member at Large*. . . . .262-251-7254  
 Don Greif, *Member at Large*. . . . .262-251-7144  
 Brian Fritsch, *Member at Large*. . . . .262-252-3570

## 2014 MFNW MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS




2nd Thursday - bi-monthly  
Village Hall Board Room

January 9th • March 13th • May 8th

VISIT US AT: [www.mfnw.org](http://www.mfnw.org)  
for current news, newsletter archives, and more!

*Everyone is welcome at the MFNW Membership Meetings! Bring a neighbor!*



The Village website can be customized to your individual needs. Log onto [www.menomonee-falls.org](http://www.menomonee-falls.org). Then click on the icon  on left-hand side of webpage. Select only the information you wish to receive by checking the boxes - fill in your email - then click the "subscribe" button. You will receive a confirmation email with instructions on how to unsubscribe if you wish. Your email will be kept confidential and will not be sold.

## Receive UP-TO-DATE NEWS directly to your email!

Receive the very latest **Crime Alerts** - news of criminal investigations involving public safety and/or assistance that may directly effect you.

Receive current news from the **Menomonee Falls Neighborhood Watch** - including safety awareness, how to safe-guard yourself and property, and all the upcoming community events.

### MENOMONEE FALLS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

# YOUTH AWARD

*Is there a young person in your neighborhood, school, church or youth organization who is courteous, helpful, and kind?*

If so, please nominate him/her for this award! Using a blank sheet of paper, state the name, address and phone number of the young person you wish to nominate, and a short paragraph explaining why you feel he/she deserves this award. Please include your contact information also. Bring it to the next Neighborhood Watch meeting. Not able to attend? Email to [mfnw.com](mailto:mfnw.com) or mail it to:

Diane Harley - N89 W17052 Roosevelt Dr. - Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

At each Neighborhood Watch meeting, the nomination forms will be read, and the winner(s) chosen. The winner(s) will be notified by phone, and sent their award certificate and gift certificate. Their names will be listed in the next Neighborhood Watch newsletter, and they will be invited to a Neighborhood Watch function for further recognition. This is an ongoing award, so please continue to send in names of deserving youth in your neighborhood. If they are honored for being good neighbors now, hopefully they will continue to be good neighbors for the rest of their lives!

## CHIEF OF POLICE, Anna Ruzinski



### SPECIAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU

Lt. Kevin Von Bank

**Juvenile Officers:** Paul Lenz, Jay Weber, Jim Kirchberger

**Detectives:** Steve Torn, Chris Cybell, Bill Marinin, Barry Babler, Vito Sorce, Nick Gapinski

**(262) 532-8705**

### NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER

**(262) 532-1700**

To contact our department in non-emergency situations. This number will connect you directly with our dispatch center.

### BUSINESS OFFICE

**(262) 532-8700**

For general information/questions.

[www.menomonee-falls.org/police](http://www.menomonee-falls.org/police)