

www.GardenaCircle.com

We have a web site! The url is: <http://www.gardenacircle.com> This is very exciting news and I owe a great debt of 'Thanks' to [Dave Nathanson](#). Dave purchased the domain name as a gift to GCNW and created the site. At the site you will find our newsletters, the Crime Report form, and links to both the Gardena City and Gardena Police Department websites. Check it out and share your ideas for incorporating additional information relevant to GCNW.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

April 2000 was the first meeting of Gardena Circle Neighborhood Watch. Over the course of the past year we have:

- produced monthly newsletters
- held monthly meetings
- learned how to observe and report suspicious activity
- become better acquainted with our GPD officers, neighbors and neighborhood
- established a website
- heard from guest speakers on a wide range of topics
- enjoyed a block party
- installed Neighborhood Watch signs along our streets and in our windows
- put house numbers on our alley gates

Most importantly, we have responded to the desire to live in a safe and friendly neighborhood, and CALL THE POLICE because we will NOT TOLERATE CRIME!

ALERT!

At our last meeting a neighbor shared with us news of someone gaining access to a neighbor's home while the owner was there! Someone came to the door saying they were from a cable company and needed to check the pole in the back yard and asked if they could come through the house to get to the back yard. The homeowner had NOT called the cable company. The person may have seemed nice enough and said they were sorry to trouble him and would only take a moment of his time. The homeowner took the person through his house to the backyard. The front door was left UNlocked, by either the homeowner or even possibly by the imposter. That's how a second person easily entered the house. While the homeowner and the imposter were in the back yard this person stole things from the house.

If the cable company or anyone else really does need access to your yard you can direct them to the side of the house where you can let them in. **Be sure the front door remains locked.** Do NOT let anyone into your home who you do not know or have not called for service. If they say they need to use your phone, offer to make the call for them while they wait outside. (A person who really does need a phone call made will be grateful for your kindness; it's just as risky for them to enter a stranger's house as it is for you to let a stranger in.)

For people claiming to need access to your home, make note of their physical appearance including clothing, hairstyle, facial features, etc. Also note characteristics of anyone who may be with them, and a description of the vehicle. Call the police immediately and report your observations.

A Crime Report form to guide you in getting the details of your observations has been included in a previous newsletter and is available at our meetings. You can also get a copy off our website at <http://www.gardenacircle.com/CrimeReport.html> Print out a few copies and keep them by the phone so you have them ready if you need them.

MARCH REVIEW

Last month's newsletter featured important details in 'Reporting a Crime' and 'Calling 9-1-1' provided by the National Neighborhood Watch Institute. **Sgt. Medrano** followed up on this at the meeting by playing a recording of a 9-1-1 call. In listening to the recording it was obvious how difficult it can be for the operator, dispatcher and officers in the field to ensure they are getting accurate information. It is imperative you stay on the line answering the questions you are asked, even if you are asked the same question more than once. The communication is going from you to at least three other destinations (it can get hectic!) and everyone needs to have the correct information. Only you can clarify when there are questions.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, April 16, 7:00PM- 8:30PM, Freeman Park

Q & A

Q: What 20 things can you do in about 15 minutes?

A: Deliver newsletters to 20 homes in our neighborhood!

I would like your help in DELIVERING NEWSLETTERS. Some neighbors have been cheerfully helping all along (*THANK YOU VERY MUCH!*) and I want to get more people involved. I deliver the newsletters right to your doorstep with a map of the houses to deliver to. Kids are great delivery assistants and everyone enjoys fresh air, exercise, greeting neighbors, seeing what the street looks like from someone else's front porch, and helping spread the news of GCNW. What could be better for you and your neighborhood?

Your WRITTEN CONTRIBUTIONS to the newsletter, and now our website, are encouraged!
Share your IDEAS for a dynamic GCNW ! Call/email me! THANK YOU. [Louise Stein](#)

CONTACT INFORMATION

For crime-related matters, call:



CRIME IN PROGRESS 911

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

323-7911

GRAFFITI 217-9568

WeTIP 800-78CRIME

(800-782-7463)

For ideas & issues regarding GCNW
contact:



Ofc. Dave Golf, Lead Officer 217-9670

Dgolf@GardenaPD.org

Louise Stein, Block Captain

Louise*GardenaCircle.com

DON'T OPEN THE DOOR TO STRANGERS!

REX MORGAN, M.D. By Woody Wilson and Graham Nolan



(This works especially well if your back door is also locked!)