



2021  
June Newsletter

## *WDDNA is adding hours to some patrols*

WDDNA recently learned that there will be no rate hike this year in the fees that we pay the Sheriff's Department for our patrols.

Therefore, funds that we had set aside to pay for a rate hike can be used, instead, to increase several of our six-hour patrol shifts to eight hours. We have begun doing this.

However, due to a major shift realignment at the Sheriff's Department, a number of our long-time patrol deputies have had their regular duty schedules changed, making it impossible for them to continue to work for us off-duty. As a result, several of our shifts are currently vacant.

We have posted the openings with the Sheriff's Department Off-Duty Office and we hope to have the vacant shifts filled soon.



## *Keep your garage safe from burglars*

With this week's sudden onset of summer heat, many homeowners will be tempted to leave their garage doors open a bit to promote air circulation. However, WDDNA deputies warn that even a partially open garage door is a target for burglars.

Unless you plan to be in or around the garage at all times, they advise that you keep the door completely closed. It takes just minutes for a thief to grab tools or bikes.

Experts offer the following additional garage security tips:

- Put a deadbolt on the exterior service door leading into the side or back of your garage. The same goes for the door between your house and garage. Then keep them locked.
- Ensure that both the exterior service door and the door from your garage into the house are strong. A steel-clad door is a good upgrade, as is anti-kick metal hardware you can add to the door frame.
- A very inexpensive anti-kick device on the exterior service door is just a simple 2x4 wooden bar across the width of the door on the inside, held up by a pair of simple door bar brackets you can purchase at most home centers and hardware stores.
- Don't leave the garage door remote in your vehicle, particularly if you park it in the driveway or on the street. If a thief breaks into your car, he can use the remote to get into your garage and, perhaps, into your home.
- Consider purchasing a keychain remote opener which you keep with you at all times on your keyring.
- If you find you sometimes forget to close the garage door, consider investing in an opener system that closes the door automatically after it has been left open for a specific period of time. You can either upgrade to a new opener that has this feature built in, or you can purchase after-market switches that tune into your existing equipment and do the job. You can even purchase garage door openers and controllers that you can monitor and control from you smart phone.
- Install a wide-angle peephole in the door between your house and your garage. That way, if you hear a strange noise in the garage, you can see what's going on without endangering yourself.
- Cover your garage windows so burglars can't see in. They won't be able to see if your car is there (a clue as to whether or not you are home) and they won't be able to check out what valuables may be stored there.
- Padlock your garage door when you're out of town. Slipping the padlock through one of the holes in the door track is all it takes.
- Light it up. Install motion-activated flood lights on the garage to scare would-be thieves away. You don't even need to wire them in. There now are good solar versions available at home centers and online.

## *CHP creates special reckless driving unit*

In response to a recent increase reckless driving and such things as "sideshows" in our area, the California Highway Patrol has implemented a Special Enforcement Unit (SEU).

This unit will consist of a team of officers who will conduct specialized enforcement in different areas of the community. They will be targeting speeding, driving under the influence and aggressive driving.



A recent SEU effort in the area of El Camino and Eastern Avenues resulted in numerous enforcement actions. Additional SEU efforts are scheduled on roadways with the highest volume of traffic problems.

As we have often reported, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) has the primary responsibility for enforcing traffic laws on our roads in the unincorporated areas. Most CHP patrols in our area are handled by the North Sacramento CHP office at 5109 Tyler Street in Old Foothill Farms.

If you wish to report specific cases of unsafe driving in our neighborhood, you may contact the North Sacramento CHP Problem Oriented Policing Unit at [250POP@chp.ca.gov](mailto:250POP@chp.ca.gov).

## ***Youth Crime Lab event set for July***

Applications are being taken now from high school students who wish to take part in the fourth annual Crime Lab Youth Shadow Days that will be held virtually in July.

Participating students will visit the District Attorney's Crime Lab virtually and meet criminalists who are experts in the various fields of forensic science and crime scene investigations. They will learn about such topics as blood spatter analysis, bullet trajectory, trace evidence, firearms, tool comparison and drug analysis.



There will be two virtual Crime Lab Youth Shadow Days this year. The program is open to current Sacramento County high school students. Priority will be given to seniors. Applicants will need to submit completed registration forms and a signed permission slip, which can be downloaded at [www.sacda.org](http://www.sacda.org).

The deadline to apply is July 2. Space is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis, so applicants are advised to register early.

Following is the event schedule:

WHEN: Friday, July 16, 2021 OR Friday, July 23, 2021 ~ 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: The sessions will be broadcast live via Zoom from the District Attorney's Crime Lab.

## ***Elder abuse on the rise in the county***

June is National Elder Abuse Awareness Month. Many of our WDDNA residents are senior citizens and many of us have elderly loved ones.

Elder abuse is seldom discussed, but it is a problem that will grow as our population ages.

In the past year, Sacramento County officials received more than 18,000 reports of elder abuse, up 81% compared to just five years earlier.

According to Irene Chu, program planner for Sacramento County Adult Protective Services, elder self-neglect, financial abuse, psychological abuse and neglect by others make up the bulk of APS cases.

The 2020-21 abuse reports generated nearly 5,500 formal investigations. Of these, 41% involved self-neglect, followed by financial abuse, at 22%.

Chu said financial abuse can include internet or telephone scams involving identity theft, investment swindles, computer virus schemes and charity or family-member-in-need scams. Even worse may be swindles and theft by caregivers, which may leave the victims destitute.

Self-neglect cases can range from elderly people failing to take their medication to not being able to maintain healthful conditions in their homes or suffering from physical or mental disabilities that make it difficult for them to care of themselves. Homeless individuals are particularly vulnerable to self-neglect and abuse by others, she said.

Chu stressed that in nearly all cases of elder abuse and neglect, isolation is the key risk factor.

“It’s not just for those people living by themselves. Even if an elder is living with family members or friends, he or she can be isolated. In some extreme situations, care givers may take away their Social Security checks, block their contact with outsiders or keep them confined to the house because they don’t want people to know what they are doing.”

Chu said it is critical that people maintain constant contact with their elderly loved ones. “Keep calling them,” she said. “Make sure when you talk to your loved ones that you don’t sense any hesitation when they are talking to you. Without communication, you won’t be able to see the signs of possible abuse.”

She urged people to learn and watch for the signs of elder abuse in their loved ones. She noted that APS social workers can link clients to services to help them live safely in their own homes.

If you have questions or suspect a problem, contact Sacramento County Adult Protective Services at (916) 874-9377.

### **Learn more**

To learn more about how to prevent elder abuse, visit the Sacramento County Adult Protective Services website. <https://dcfas.saccounty.net/SAS/Pages/Adult-Protective-Services/SP-Adult-Protective-Services.aspx>

### **Watch for these signs of elder abuse**

- Lack of basic amenities;
- Cluttered, filthy living environment;
- Unexplained or uncharacteristic changes in behavior ;
- Harassment, coercion, intimidation, humiliation;
- Caregiver isolates elder.

To spot financial abuse, look for sudden changes in the older person’s financial situation, such as:

- Suspicious changes in wills or powers of attorney;
- Financial activity the person couldn’t have done herself;
- Bills not being paid;
- Significant withdrawals or unusual purchases.

## How to report suspected cases of elder abuse

If you believe an elderly person is in immediate danger, call 911. Otherwise, Sacramento County Adult Protective Services (APS) has a 24-hour hotline for reporting abuse of older adults and disabled adults who may be physically or financially abused, neglected or exploited. Call (916) 874-9377.

To report suspected abuse of an elder in a nursing home, residential care facility for the elderly, or assisted living facility, contact California' crisis line at (800) 231-4024 or call Ombudsman Services of Northern California at (916) 376-8910.

## *Bill would change stop sign rules for bikes*

A bill that would allow bicyclists to roll through stop signs when it is safe to do so has passed the California Assembly and is now under consideration by the State Senate Transportation Committee.

Existing law requires anyone operating a vehicle to stop at stop signs. This includes bicycles. Assembly Bill 122 would instead allow bicyclists to view stop signs as though they were yield signs.

According to the bill summary, AB 122 "Permits a person riding a bicycle approaching a stop sign to yield the right-of-way to any vehicles that have stopped at the entrance of the intersection, have entered the intersection, or are approaching the intersection, and to continue to yield the right-of-way until it is reasonable to proceed."

If passed, the bill would sunset on Jan. 1, 2028.

If you wish to submit comments to the Senate Transportation Committee you should take note that the Senate committee does not accept email position letters. Here are the following ways you can submit a letter:

1. Electronically via the California Legislature Advocates Portal at <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/>
2. Hand delivered to the committee office in State Capitol Room 2209
3. Mailed to Senate Transportation Committee, California State Capitol, Room 2209, Sacramento CA 95814

CLICK HERE to track the bill or download a copy of it. <https://legiscan.com/CA/bill/AB122/2021>

*WDDNA takes no position on legislation of any kind. We are providing this information simply because of our neighborhood's proximity to the American River Parkway bike trail and the popularity of biking on our streets.*

## *Member Q&A - Why do WDDNA deputies sometimes leave the neighborhood?*

**Q:** *I noticed recently that our deputies sometimes leave our neighborhood for an hour or more to handle crimes at nearby businesses or in other neighborhoods. Do those businesses pay for our protection? Do we pay the deputies while they are somewhere else?*

**A:** No. Our deputies are on call by the Sheriff's Department when they are working for us. Whenever the Sheriff's Department has a situation and other on-duty deputies are not close by, they dispatch our deputy to the scene. However, we are not charged for the time that they are working away from our neighborhood.

## *HOW TO CALL FOR HELP*

### IN AN EMERGENCY

If you have an immediate emergency - if your life or property is in immediate danger, if you feel threatened by someone on or near your property, if you have just become the victim of a crime or if you are witnessing a crime in progress:

**CALL 911** from a land line.

Or, if calling from a cell phone within Sacramento County, call  
(916) 874-5111.

### TO REPORT A CRIME

There are two ways to report a crime to the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department:

1. Call the Sheriff's Department NON-EMERGENCY LINE at (916) 874-5115. To bypass the recorded messaging when you call, dial 0 after the line is answered.
2. File a report online through the Sheriff's Department website. Click on this link to begin the process: <https://www.sacsheriff.com/Pages/Services/ReportCrime.aspx>

### SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

(Not an emergency)

If you see someone engaged in suspicious activity but it is not an emergency, call 916-874-5115 (Sheriff's Department non-emergency line).

### GENERAL CONCERNS, REPORTS OR QUESTIONS

If you have an issue that can be addressed later, you may contact our neighborhood patrol officers about it. The best way is via [EMAIL](mailto:wilhaggin4@sacsheriff.com) at [wilhaggin4@sacsheriff.com](mailto:wilhaggin4@sacsheriff.com)

Email: [wilhaggindeldayona@gmail.com](mailto:wilhaggindeldayona@gmail.com)

Website: [www.Wilhagginna.com](http://www.Wilhagginna.com)

Wilhaggin Del Dayo Neighborhood Association | P.O. Box 2273, Carmichael, CA 95609

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