



Memorial Villages Police Department Newsletter

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MVPD Introduces Another Format To Keeping Citizens Informed

Welcome to the Inaugural Edition of the Memorial Villages Police Department newsletter. The Police Department wants to make sure that our citizens are informed of what's going on around them. The only way to keep our cities safe is by police partnering with the citizens we serve and local businesses. Hopefully, this newsletter will keep our partners up to date on how we are trying to serve our community better.



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In addition to the weekly emails that we currently distribute through the cities,

which provide crime statistics and information of a more immediate need, we will start distributing this monthly newsletter. In it, you will find interesting articles, crime prevention tips, a word from the Chief, initiatives being used by the police department, and a variety of useful information.

Traffic Enforcement Initiative

Based on complaints from citizens concerning unsafe drivers in the Villages, MVPD began a Traffic Enforcement Initiative in January. This initiative is not intended (as some will say) to write more tickets, but to make

more contacts with violators and improve safety in our community. School zones are of particular concern. With sidewalks full of kids, walkers, and joggers, the Department received several complaints about speeders, stop sign runners, and just dangerous drivers. Unfortunately, some of these drivers are our own residents.

MVPD officers are making more traffic stops with the intent of improving driving habits. Another part of this Initiative is the designation of "Hot Spots." These are areas that have been identified where frequent or dangerous violations exist.

Please take a few extra minutes in your travels in the Villages to observe the traffic signs.

Memorial Villages Are The Safest Place to Live in Texas

According to the latest report issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety, among cities with similar characteristics and population, Bunker Hill, Piney Point, and Hunters Creek are the safest places to live in the State. Statistics show that our Villages had a crime rate of .0096 crimes per person in 2010, which is significantly lower than any other comparable city. These

stats were compared to local cities, as well as cities around Austin, Dallas, and San Antonio.

The Police Department attributes this to it's police officers, working as partners with the community they serve. "No police force can be everywhere, all the time. It takes citizens like we have in the Villages to work with the police to pre-

vent crime," says Chief Walpole. While no one expects a zero crime rate, and one crime is one too many if it happens to you, the police department strives for improvement every year by focusing on a proactive approach to policing, hiring and retaining the most experienced, professional officers, and utilizing the latest technology and techniques.

Did you know?
You can have an officer or the Chief come to your community event to speak on topics like community safety, child safety, internet fraud, or just about any police-related topic? Give us a call to schedule someone for your community or church group.

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Chief's Corner:

I sincerely hope that you have found this newsletter informative and interesting. Please feel free to comment by emailing us. If you aren't already, call your City Hall and get on our email list to receive more up to date crime information.

It is my desire to make you, the citizens, proud of your Police Department. Get involved and help us make the Villages safer by reporting any suspicious activity. Several times, I've had citizens say, after a crime was committed, "Well, I didn't think it was anything and didn't want to bother you." I want our citizens to know, I would rather you call 100 times and it be nothing, than to not call once and have someone get hurt or their property taken. That's what we're here for.

~ Haril Walpole, Chief of Police

We're on the web!
www.mvpdtx.org



Memorial Villages Police Department

*Serving Bunker Hill
Village, Piney Point Village,
and Hunters Creek Village*

Haril Walpole
Chief of Police

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Changing of the Guard

On December 31st, Chief Gary Brye retired his position as Police Chief of the Memorial Villages Police Department after serving for over 12 years. He culminated a long, successful career as police chief to retire to the country with his wife.



On November 16th, 2011, the Board of Police Commissioners voted unanimously to appoint Haril Walpole as the new Police Chief. Walpole has worked at Memorial Villages for almost

10 years, most recently serving as the Operations Commander. He is very familiar with the complex management of a police department that serves multiple cities.

Chief Walpole's prior police experience includes 13 years at the Houston Police Department where he was a Sergeant in Planning and Research, Jail Division, worked writing General Orders for the Houston Chief in Inspections, taught DARE, worked in Community Services, and Northwest Patrol across the freeway from the Villages.

Chief Walpole recently earned his PhD in Theology while working at the Department. He teaches law enforcement officers for the Leadership Command

College at Sam Houston State University. Last year, he was selected to a delegation of police executives to China, who represent U.S. Law Enforcement and studied Chinese policing.

"My goal is to make this an even safer place for people to live, says Chief Walpole. "It is awesome to work in a place where the community supports it's police so well. That's what it takes to be successful in combatting crime.

Chief Walpole says, "A successful police department works with the community, has well-trained, motivated employees, hires the most qualified professionals, and utilizes the latest technology to proactively fight crime."

