

# Gardena Circle Neighborhood Watch Newsletter Nov / Vol 19

## NEXT MEETING

Monday, November 19

7:00 PM - 8:30pm

Freeman Park, 154th Street,  
one street east of Van Ness

**There is NO mtg in December**

## HALLOWEEN PICTURES

Check out [www.GardenaCircle.com](http://www.GardenaCircle.com) for pictures of trick-or-treaters who came to our door. I especially enjoyed seeing parents in costume! At least I presume the 'king' and 'gangster' were in costume...

Halloween brings people from other neighborhoods to our door. I used the opportunity to include with each treat a Gardena Police Department magnet which has important department phone numbers. I also included a notice that 'Safe Neighborhoods Don't Just Happen', suggesting ways to stop crime. Whether folks attend neighborhood watch meetings, get information from [GardenaCircle.com](http://GardenaCircle.com), or work with Sgt. Medrano to get a watch started in their area, there is every reason for us to work together to stop crime in our neighborhoods.

## CALENDAR

Gardena Circle Neighborhood Watch meetings are Mondays:

Circle these dates on your calendar!

- Jan. 14
- Feb. 11
- March 18
- April 15
- May 20
- June 17
- July 15
- Aug. 19
- Sept. 16
- Oct. 21
- Nov. 18

There will be no meeting in December. All meetings will be held indoors 7-8:30PM at Freeman Park. Everyone is welcome! If you cannot attend a meeting but have ideas or concerns to share send an email to

[Louise\\*GardenaCircle.com](mailto:Louise*GardenaCircle.com).

## HELP WITH DRUG ABUSE

Manufacturing, selling, purchasing, and using illicit drugs in our society is not only illegal but also cause terrible crimes and situations in people's lives. Law enforcement officials and many people in the community are working to stop gangs and drug crimes. We are also fighting the influences that can cause children and others to turn to drugs.

Do you or someone you know need help with an addiction?

Do you want more information about drugs?

Call the National Institute on Drug Abuse at 1-800-662-HELP for more information or a referral to a program in our area. You may also find help from 12-step programs like [Narcotics Anonymous](#) or [Alcoholics Anonymous](#).

Look in the white pages of your local [phone book](#) to find a [chapter](#) near you. Meetings may be local, even if their office is not

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

May everyone have a safe and



Happy Thanksgiving!

### CONTACT INFORMATION

For crime-related matters:



**CRIME IN PROGRESS**      **911**  
**SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY**      **323-7911**  
**GRAFFITI**      **217-9568**  
**WeTIP**      **800-78CRIME, 800-782-7463**

For ideas & issues regarding GCNW:



**Gardena Circle NW Web Site** [www.GardenaCircle.com](http://www.GardenaCircle.com)  
**Louise Stein, Block Captain** [Louise\\*GardenaCircle.com](mailto:Louise*GardenaCircle.com)  
**Ofc. Dave Golf** 217-9670 [Dgolf@gardenapd.org](mailto:Dgolf@gardenapd.org)

### HOLIDAY BACK TO BASICS

- Holidays can be fun, exhausting, and dangerous. Fun because there are parties to go to or host, there's decorating to be done, and many details out of the ordinary to attend to like traveling. These may be the same reasons why we feel exhausted!
- Holidays can also be dangerous because criminals will be watching for when your guard is down, your house is empty, or your car is full of packages. To avoid being a victim of crime:
- Be organized. Be alert. Fumbling in your purse for your keys or checkbook, being overwhelmed with packages and jackets you are carrying, or chatting away on a cell phone cause you to lose awareness of your surroundings. This makes you an easy target for criminals.
- Be watchful for suspicious persons in parking lots and parking structures. Be alert to individuals who follow you and/or watch you place items in your car. Report all suspicious activity to security.
- Lock packages, briefcases, and other valuables out of view in the trunk of your car. Close all windows - professional thieves have tools that help unlock cars through a minimum of open space.
- Close and lock ALL windows and doors when you leave the house. (Yes, even the bathroom window)
- Look at your house at night and see all the lights you have on. Purchase enough timers to recreate that look when you are away so it looks like the home is occupied.
- Take your mail to the post office for mailing and don't let delivered mail sit around in your mailbox. Criminals will take envelopes hoping to find cash, checks and credit card information.
- Stop delivery of your newspaper before going away. Uncollected newspapers indicate no one is home. Criminals attracted to these homes may also try to break into other houses while they are in the area.
- Make the neighborhood safer and pick up newspapers & advertisements you see piling up. If YOUR newspapers are piling up and you are home, pick them up!
- Newspaper circulation departments can be made aware of the important role they play in our crime fighting

efforts by not delivering newspapers when the subscription is suspended. Call the newspaper if there is a problem.

Safe Neighborhoods Don't Just Happen. Report Suspicious Activity to the Police!

## YOUR LETTERS

This is YOUR newsletter and you are encouraged to write articles relevant to Neighborhood Watch that I can include in the newsletter. Please e-mail them to [Louise\\*GardenaCircle.com](mailto:Louise*GardenaCircle.com) or if you don't have e-mail you can drop them by my house.