

City of Willcox Newsletter January 2014

LET'S START 2014 OFF RIGHT!

Glenn Childers, Interim Chief, Willcox Dept of Public Safety

Here we are, over half way through January, and 2014 is well underway. With the busy schedules of today, it is easy to postpone or forget about the goals and small projects we meant to accomplish throughout the year. But some of the most important tasks only take a few minutes to complete, and when it comes to the safety of your home and family, you cannot afford to put it off.

Most homeowners already know that you should change the batteries in your smoke detector once every year. When was the last time the batteries in your smoke detectors were changed? If you do not know for sure that it was during the last twelve months, then they are due. It helps to write the date on the new battery before you put it in the detector. You might be surprised how much time has passed between each change if you don't have a set date that you change them. Perhaps it would be easy to remember that when you change your calendar, you should also change the batteries in your smoke detector.

Did you know that it is also recommended that you change the entire smoke detector as well? Smoke detectors are not designed to last forever, and they should be replaced every eight to ten years. If your smoke detectors were installed before 2004, they should be disposed of and replaced with new ones.

Do you have any fire extinguishers in your home? How old are your fire extinguishers? Does everyone in your home know where the extinguishers are located? You should inspect all of the fire extinguishers in your home to ensure that they have not expired, to ensure that they are still under the proper amount of pressure, and that they are in the right area for the type of fire that they can put out. You don't want to use water on a grease or electrical fire. Be sure to immediately replace any that are expired, that are not showing green on the gauge, or any that have been used.

Now that the holiday season is over, many of us have new purchases or gifts in our homes. Have you taken time yet to record the serial numbers on the valuable items that you recently acquired? Many people have still not even recorded the serial numbers from the items they acquired in 2012. You may not realize it, but evidence and property rooms in police departments across the country are full of property that has been recovered, but the owner is unknown. If something is stolen from you and you can provide the police with its serial number, it will go into a nation-wide computer system. If the item is recovered by law enforcement and it is listed in this computer system, you will get it back. If you do not know the serial numbers of stolen items when police are taking the report, they cannot be entered into the system, and even if they are recovered, the chances of you getting the items back are significantly reduced.

Are you aware that every dog living within the city limits must be registered with the Department of Public Safety each year? A Willcox city dog tag is only valid through the calendar year it was purchased, so if you have not registered your dogs with the City in the

past three weeks, your dogs are not valid for 2014. If the dog is not registered, and the owner is cited, the fine charged by the court is \$475.00.

Please take a moment of your time to ensure that these few small details are taken care of in your household. A little bit of your time now can save you a lot of time, money and hassle down the road.

LIBRARY 'WRAPS UP' A BANNER YEAR! - Pt 2

Tom Miner, Library Director

The year 2013 was indeed a very busy one here at the Library. Due to space limitations last month, I only touched on a couple of the highlights. Here are some more:

- ◇ After 18+ yrs, we now have a lighted flagpole
- ◇ New metal installed on the gable ends of the building
- ◇ New landscaping in picnic/patio area, soon to include ADA furniture, flowers, plants & a tree
- ◇ Added a new light fixture in children's room
- ◇ Added new Insulation in ceiling
- ◇ Built a new 5-Yr Strategic Plan
- ◇ New security system up and running in Jan (Yes – you will be on candid camera!)
- ◇ New I-T support from WUSD
- ◇ 12 brand new computers, thanks to our Friends of the Library
- ◇ Hired two new P/T reg. employees and two grant-funded temporary employees ~ lost one
- ◇ Awarded aprx \$20,000 in two Grants this past year;
- ◇ Last two shelving units just arrived ~ will add 60 more shelves to our total area (final expansion due to space).
- ◇ Updated Library General Policy to encompass AZ Internet filtering requirements
- ◇ Upgraded all software from Win XP to Win 7 OS and added MS Office Suite 2013
- ◇ Library celebrated its 90th Birthday Nov 1
- ◇ Library burglar sentenced in June
- ◇ FOL Bookstore relocated to 125 E. Maley St
- ◇ 2014 Goals – Implement new 5-Yr Strategic Plan; PLAC to look at new Library Mission Statement; Work on new Inter-Government Agreement with Cochise County Library District

From the Office of the City Clerk...

Virginia A. Mefford, City Clerk

City Council Meetings

Regular Meeting

Note New Day: Thursday

Note time: 6:30 p.m.

Note New Date: Feb 6, 2014

&

Thursday

Feb 20, 2014

Note time: 6:30 p.m.

City Council Chambers

300 W. Rex Allen Drive