



CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

BY: Joyce Gardam



As 2020 finally draws to a close, we can certainly reflect back on a year we will never forget! 2021 has a promising future filled with hope and anticipation that we will see a turnaround from the events of 2020.

Crossroads Block Watch will also see changes coming in 2021. Changes to the program as we know it and have known since inception in 1984. The Neighbourhood Card will replace the Block Map. The District Coordinators will now be responsible for delivery of any hard copy issues as the newsletter will go on Line in the 3rd quarter of 2021 thus eliminating the need for Block Captains to deliver the traditional quarterly newsletter. All District Coordinators were tasked with informing all Block Captains of impending changes. Fine tuning of these initiatives will also take place.



CHRISTMAS ADOPT A FAMILY PROGRAM

SPECIAL THANKS:

**To: Family Foods, donation of turkeys
Crossroads Block Watch, gifts, and food
certificates**

**Vicki McNeill, contacting local schools
Angela Kancsal, for shopping at
Walmart with Joyce for gifts for
families**

**District coordinators: John Abramchuk, Ed Brooks, Marilyn Fehr and
Linda Then for coordination and distribution of gifts, turkeys, food
certificates to recipient families.**



MITTEN PROJECT:

SPECIAL THANKS TO VICKI MCNEILL AND LINDA THEN FOR ORGANIZATION, PURCHASE AND DISTRIBUTION OF MITTENS FOR DELIVERY TO AREA SCHOOLS. Donation funds traditionally of \$1,000. Was decreased to \$500 in support of local charities to enable Block Watch to conduct this program.

John Abramchuk will be contacting area residents to volunteer for the 2021 slotted **casino** when word is received as to date and time. It is usually conducted at Casino Calgary on Meridian Rd. N.E.

PLEASE VOLUNTEER when he calls to ask for your help!



Crossroads Block Watch Report

By: John Abramchuk

The Crossroads Block Watch Newsletter will be going online only after the delivery of the quarterly Newsletter in April 2021. At that time, the newsletter will not be delivered unless you request it. Please contact your Block Watch Coordinator or send your request for home delivery to abe2@shaw.ca. Please leave your name and address so we can continue to deliver the newsletter to you.

Crossroads Block Watch has an updated website that has lots of information in it that tells you how to secure your home, vehicles and other valuable personal items. There are numerous phone numbers to help you out when you have some issues. Please take advantage of this website as it was created with you in mind. The quarterly newsletter will be printed on the Crossroads Block Watch web page. Login on to our website at: crossroadsblockwatch.org or you can also google Crossroads Community Block Watch then click on About Us.

If you wish to see additional items included in our website, please let us know. We are here to serve you, our residents.

If you are interested in becoming part of a group that shares information of what is ongoing in our community and other communities, we can recommend the following two community sites:

Nextdoor.com the app is available online.

VISTA HEIGHTS residents can sign up to the following on Facebook page: Vista Heights Guardians. If you need additional information, you can contact your Block Watch Coordinator.

For more information about our Crossroads communities, you can also follow:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/crossroadscommunityassociation>

The community newsletter is also online so you can have a look at it to see activities and events in the community.

REPORT BY ED BROOKS

VISTA HEIGHTS DISTRICT COORDINATOR

By ED BROOKS

In today's delivery of the Crossroads Block Watch Newsletter you will find a "My Neighbour Card". The purpose of the card is to have information on hand should you need to contact your neighbour or call authorities regarding suspicious activity at your neighbour's home; such as car prowling, someone in the yard, a fire or perhaps an unattended delivery. This card is printed on heavier paper stock so that it can be saved for reference. The My Neighbour Card will allow you to keep contact information of the three homes across your front street, the three homes across your back lane and the homes on either side of you on your street. Your neighbours should have your information as well to safeguard your property. The use of the Good Neighbour Card is voluntary and is intended to stop crime in your neighbourhood.

Ed Brooks

Edbrooks22@gmail.com

M) 1-403-462-8802

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY BLOCK WATCH

MY NEIGHBOUR CARD



**BLOCK
WATCH**
Making Our Community Safer

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURS!

Do you know at least 5 of your neighbours?
Would you be able to tell police the addresses of the houses around you?
Would your neighbours know your address?

TO REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY PLEASE CALL (403) 266-1234

Name: _____

House number: _____

Phone Numbers: _____



Name: _____

House number: _____

Phone Numbers: _____



**BEST WISHES
FOR A HAPPY AND HEALTHY
2021
FROM
DISTRICT 4**

2020 has been a challenging year for everyone, including us in the Calgary Police Service. The willingness and effort from the Crossroads Blockwatch to make our communities a safer place has, and will continue to be, one of the bright spots of our year. What is impressive to me is the level of volunteerism, and should be acknowledged for the impacts it makes, both seen and unseen.

Thank you for what you do, and for helping us keep our city a safe place to live for our citizens.

Be safe and healthy, and we look forward to working with you in 2021!

Joel Matthews #3120

Inspector, District 4





Message to Community

By: Cst. Brad Bliet

Hello Community Members,

The holiday season was a little different this year, and probably a lot quieter. I hope everyone was able to make the best of the holidays and had a fantastic Christmas and New Year!! This next year comes with hope that life will get back to normal and we will once again be able to socialize with our neighbours, friends and family. While this year has been challenging, it has been great to see the Crossroads community band together to address concerns as well as come up with out of the box ideas to keep spirits high. I welcome you to continue contacting me with what is happening in the neighbourhood. Working together, we can ensure Crossroads will continue to be a safe and desirable place to live.

Property crime continues to be an issue within the city. Please remember to ensure your belongings are secure and out of view. A good idea is to follow the 9 pm routine in checking that all doors and vehicles are secure prior to going to bed. As well, don't hesitate to report suspicious activity to police. If it is a crime in progress or an emergency, dial 911. Otherwise, contact the non-emergency number at (403)266-1234. District offices continue to be open, however access has changed to ensure social distancing. If attending a district office, follow the instructions posted on the door. There are also many occurrences that can be reported online. Go to the Calgary Police website for further information.

Check out www.calgarypolice.ca for more information on what the Calgary Police Service has to offer. Calgary.ca is another resource for tips and information on other municipal bylaws and programs. As always, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Wishing you all the best this New Year!!

Cst. Brad Bliet 4380
Community Resource Officer
District 4 Zone 3
3207-12 Avenue NE
(403) 428-6400 (office)
pol4380@calgarypolice.ca
CRO43@calgarypolice.ca



Mayland & Mayland Heights

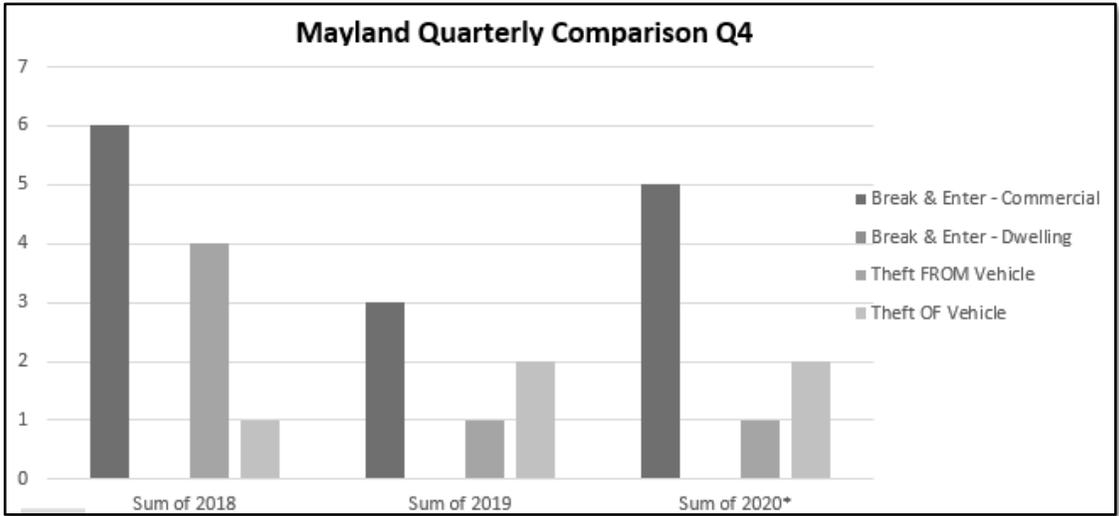
Mayland

"Just the facts."



2020 Monthly Crime Statistics: Mayland														Total
Offence Type	Ann	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Assault (Non-Domestic)	0													0
Commercial Robbery	0													0
Street Robbery	1		1											1
Violence 'Other" (Non-Dom)	2	1					1							2
Residential Break & Enter	0													0
Commercial Break & Enter	25	6	2	2	4	3	1	2			2	1	2	25
Theft of Vehicle	5			1		1		1			1	1		5
Theft From Vehicle	11	1	2	2				3	2	1				11
Social Disorder	95	4	6	9	7	7	10	11	7	12	13	5	4	95
Physical Disorder	13	1	2	4	1	1				1	2		1	13
Totals		13	13	18	12	12	12	17	9	14	18	7	7	152

Accumulated Annual Crime Statistics: Mayland						
Offence	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Assault (Non-Domestic)	2	8	2	3	6	0
Commercial Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0
Street Robbery	0	0	1	2	1	1
Violence 'Other" (Non-Dom)	3	3	1	0	2	2
Residential Break & Enter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial Break & Enter	34	14	18	21	26	25
Break & Enter (Other Premises)	1	0	1	1	2	5
Theft of Vehicle	10	14	7	5	8	5
Theft From Vehicle	15	11	18	11	25	11
Social Disorder	78	63	66	69	80	95
Physical Disorder	21	16	11	10	19	13



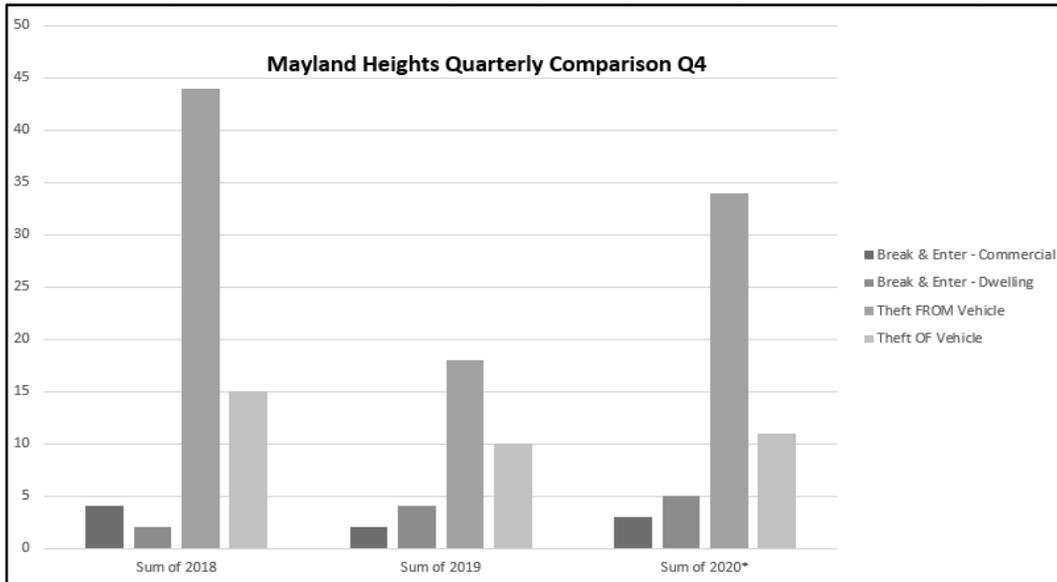
Mayland Heights

“Just the facts.”



2020 Monthly Crime Statistics: Mayland Heights													
Mayland Heights	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec*	Total
Assault (Non-domestic)	3	1				2	3	1		1	1	1	12
Break & Enter - Commercial	4	1	1			1		1		2		1	10
Break & Enter - Dwelling				1		2	2		1	1	3	1	10
Break & Enter - Other Premises	1	2	1	5	1	4	4	1	1	3	3	2	26
Commercial Robbery										1			1
Physical Disorder													
Social Disorder													
Street Robbery		1											1
Theft FROM Vehicle	18	8	6	17	15	11	10	11	10	11	11	12	128
Theft OF Vehicle	5	6	3	6	5	4	1	3	3	3	4	4	43
Violence 'Other' (Non-domestic)			1			2	1				1		5
Total	31	19	12	29	21	26	21	17	15	22	23	23	236
* Includes December Average													

MAYLAND HEIGHTS	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*
Assault (Non-domestic)	16	10	17	20	20	12
Break & Enter - Commercial	10	10	15	16	11	10
Break & Enter - Dwelling	33	15	14	6	16	10
Break & Enter - Other Premises	17	10	23	22	19	26
Commercial Robbery	0	3	2	4	5	1
Physical Disorder	41	33	37	43	57	0
Social Disorder	536	724	610	552	624	0
Street Robbery	3	0	0	1	3	1
Theft FROM Vehicle	80	104	112	113	99	128
Theft OF Vehicle	45	40	74	48	47	43
Violence 'Other' (Non-domestic)	13	6	17	7	4	5
* Includes December Average						



Building Bridges

Crime prevention through social development

The next time you pass a group of kids from your neighbourhood, try giving them a big smile and a cheery greeting. This simple “hello” is an easy but very effective way to build bridges within your community - which is also a great way to help prevent crime.



The theory behind this is called “crime prevention through social development.” It recognizes that social, economic and cultural factors all play a role in how crime happens. By strengthening connections within the community, you can contribute to the safe, secure development of individuals, families and eventually, the community itself.

How does it work?

The key to this process is a concept called “Developmental Assets” - factors that promote the healthy development of young people. Research conducted by the Search Institute shows that the more assets young people have, the less likely they are to engage in high-risk activities such as criminal and other anti-social behaviour...and the greater chance they have at becoming successful and contributing members of our society.

The great part about these assets is that anyone can help build them at any time, because they're all about building relationships - that's why a simple "hello" can make a difference.

What are the "assets"?

There are 40 assets, broken down into two basic categories. Each one is easy to support each and every day; you're probably already supporting many without even realizing it.

External Assets: these are the structures, interactions and activities that create a positive environment for our young people. They originate with the people and institutions that are in their lives, and include four areas:

- support - providing positive, supportive environments for youth;
- empowerment - the community values youth and provides opportunities for youth to contribute to the community in return;
- boundaries and expectations - clear standards of acceptable and non-acceptable behaviour; and
- constructive use of time - youth programs and activities that provide opportunities for growth.

Internal Assets: these reflect the values, skills and beliefs our young people need in order to fully engage with and function in the world around them. These qualities need to be nurtured by the adults and institutions in their lives:

- commitment to learning - a lifelong approach to education;
- positive values - to help guide strong and positive choices;
- social competencies - the skills and abilities to develop relationships with others and to succeed; and
- positive identity - a sense of worth.

Learn more!

Everyone can make a difference in helping our young people succeed!

For more information about developmental assets, visit:

www.search-institute.org



Staying Safe at Home

Don't forget your garage

Garages are a favourite target for burglars — they contain valuable items such as vehicles, garden tools and bicycles, and they're often left open and unattended. The Calgary Police Service suggests these simple tips to help prevent thefts from garages:

- **Protect your valuables:** Put curtains or blinds up to cover any windows in the garage, so thieves can't look for items to steal, or see if your vehicle is there.
- **Make it secure:** The person-door between your house and attached garage should swing inward into the garage, be solid core, and have a deadbolt lock. The same goes for other exterior person-doors on your garage.



- **Don't give thieves an open invitation:** Keep your overhead door closed and your other garage doors locked, even when you are at home — this includes the door between your home and an attached garage.



- **Check your locks:** Secure your person-doors with deadbolts (which need to be operated from the outside with a key).



- **Make it bright:** Install lights near your garage to keep the area around doors and windows lit: These can be motion sensor or photo (light) sensitive, so that they turn on automatically when someone walks past or when the sun sets.



- **Put up a number:** Put your house number on your garage, especially if it opens up into a back alley. This helps emergency personnel to identify which house is yours.
- **Keep records:** Catalogue your garage's contents, including serial numbers of valuable items and vehicle identification numbers. Taking photographs, videos or digital recordings of contents can also help police and your insurance company if there's a break-in, fire, or flood.
- **Double-check:** Never drive away without checking that your overhead garage door is down. Also check the operation of automatic doors once a month for safety (read your instruction booklet or contact the door's manufacturer for details).



For more tips on crime prevention, visit the Calgary Police Service website at:
www.calgarypolice.ca.



**WORKING TOGETHER TO BUILD
A BETTER COMMUNITY**



AUTO THEFT PREVENTION

NEVER LEAVE A VEHICLE RUNNING & UNATTENDED

**INSTALL A
REMOTE
STARTER**

OR

**STAY WITH
YOUR RUNNING
VEHICLE**

**DON'T LEAVE
KIDS OR PETS
IN A VEHICLE**

**REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY IMMEDIATELY
BY CALLING 403-266-1234**

Auto thefts are crimes of opportunity. Do your part to keep your vehicle safe.



**CALGARY
POLICE
SERVICE**

HOW TO AVOID THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS

'Twas' the month
before Christmas...



when presents
were bought,


NEVER
MAKE PURCHASES,
INPUT
BANK OR PERSONAL
INFORMATION ON PUBLIC
WIFI


NEVER
CLICK LINKS
IN UNEXPECTED
EMAILS
OR
TEXT
MESSAGES


LOCK
ALL
DEVICES
WITH A
PASSWORD


ALWAYS
CONFIRM REQUEST
WITH COMPANY
DIRECTLY
DON'T USE CONTACT
INFO CONTAINED
IN
EMAIL



Moms and dads shopped
online without even a thought.


USE
STRONG PASSWORDS
THAT CONTAIN
UPPERCASE & LOWERCASE
LETTERS, NUMBERS
& **SYMBOLS**


CHANGE
PASSWORDS OFTEN
DON'T
SET DEVICES
TO AUTO-REMEMBER
PASSWORDS


IF SOMETHING
SEEMS TOO
GOOD
TO BE TRUE,
IT'S PROBABLY
A SCAM


KEEP
OPERATING SYSTEM,
BROWSER & ANTI-VIRUS
UP TO DATE

That a scammer might try
to take all the fun,




LOOK
FOR THE LOCK SYMBOL
IN ADDRESS BAR
& **MAKE SURE**
URL BEGINS WITH
'https'


CONFIRM
ENTIRE URL
IS CORRECT
MALICIOUS WEBSITES
WILL LOOK SIMILAR
BUT
URL
WILL BE DIFFERENT


CHECK
HOME
WIFI
IS
PASSWORD
PROTECTED


INSTALL
AN APP THAT
ALLOWS
DEVICE TRACKING
& REMOTELY
ERASES ALL
PERSONAL
INFORMATION



and leave the family with
nothing but a thief on the run...

IF YOU HAVE BEEN A VICTIM OF CYBERCRIME
REPORT IT BY CALLING 403-266-1234 OR
9-1-1 IN AN EMERGENCY



CALGARY
POLICE
SERVICE



Message to Community

Block Watch Newsletter

Message from CPS:

CRO Cst. Shawna Young #4358

Happy New Year Vista! Hope everyone had a good Christmas and/or Holiday Season!

I wanted to take the time to again remind everyone that winter is here and at this time of year police receive more calls for service as it pertains to vehicle thefts. I wanted to take this time to remind drivers.....

- Never leave running vehicles unattended
- Use a remote starter whenever possible
- Use a second set of keys and lock your vehicle while it's warming up
- Use a steering wheel lock to deter thieves
- Never leave spare keys or garage door openers in your vehicle
- ***A PROFESSIONAL CAN STEAL YOUR VEHICLE IN JUST 30 SECONDS!***

Top locations to have your vehicle stolen in the city of Calgary:

1. Streets, roads, highways
2. Parking lots
3. Outside a Residence (starting a car with the keys left inside it on a cold day is a causing factor for many of these)
4. Commercial Places

Why Does a Criminal Target a Vehicle?

How often your make and model of vehicle is stolen is one of the factors insurers use to set your insurance premium. Thieves generally steal vehicles for one of four reasons:

1. To sell abroad: Stolen vehicles are often immediately packed - with their vehicle identification numbers (VINs) still intact – and shipped abroad, where they are sold for many times their original market value.
2. To sell to unsuspecting consumers: Stolen vehicles may be given a false VIN and then sold to unsuspecting consumers. They can also be dismantled and sold for parts.
3. To get somewhere: This may be referred to as “joyriding.” Auto theft of any kind is a crime and innocent people may get hurt or killed as a result.
4. To commit another crime: Stolen vehicles used to commit other crimes are often recovered - abandoned and badly damaged - within 48 hours of their theft.

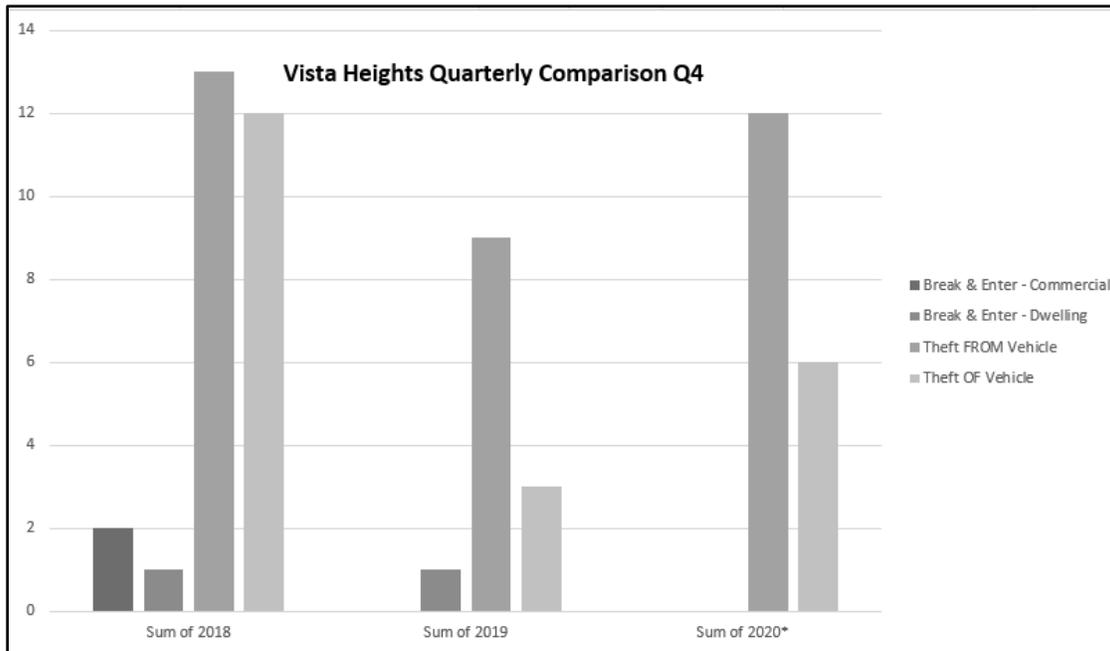
This time of year also comes with other financial, and emotional stress. Calgary has a simple and easy to use 3-digit number to call that will connect you to thousands of social, community and government services that are ready to help vulnerable Calgarians.

This number is 211.

“211 can connect Calgarians in need with shelters and agencies that provide winter clothing. 211 can help seniors find an organization that pairs them with a friendly volunteer to spend time with. 211 can help new Canadians find resources in the language they’re most comfortable using. And 211 connects donors and volunteers with a cause they care about.” “211 is confidential, available 24/7 and offered in over 200 languages. Online chat is also available from 12 - 8pm daily at ab.211.ca. In Calgary and Area, 211 is a program of Distress Centre Calgary, United Way of Calgary and Area and the City of Calgary.”

Accumulated Annual Crime Statistics						
Vista Heights	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*
Assault (Non-domestic)	10	6	10	12	14	26
Commercial Robbery	4	2	4	3	0	0
Street Robbery	1	1	1	1	1	4
Violence 'Other' (Non-domestic)	3	4	6	2	4	7
Break & Enter - Dwelling	5	7	5	6	7	5
Break & Enter - Commercial	4	6	4	4	9	2
Break & Enter - Other Premises	0	1	7	5	6	8
Theft OF Vehicle	26	17	27	30	22	20
Theft FROM Vehicle	34	40	42	43	30	43
Social Disorder	313	324	347	346	355	0
Physical Disorder	16	16	24	18	25	0
* Includes December Average						

REPORT BY ED BROOKS VISTA HEIGHTS DISTRICT COORDINATOR



By ED BROOKS

In today's delivery of the Crossroads Block Watch Newsletter you will find a "My Neighbour Card". The purpose of the card is to have information on hand should you need to contact your neighbour or call authorities regarding suspicious activity at your neighbour's home; such as car prowling, someone in the yard, a fire or perhaps an unattended delivery. This card is printed on heavier paper stock so that it can be saved for reference. The My Neighbour Card will allow you to keep contact information of the three homes across your front street, the three homes across your back lane and the homes on either side of you on your street. Your neighbours should have your information as well to safeguard your property. The use of the Good Neighbour Card is voluntary and is intended to stop crime in your neighbourhood.

Ed Brooks

Edbrooks22@gmail.com

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Name: _____

House number: _____

Phone Numbers: _____



**MY
HOUSE**

Name: _____

House number: _____

Phone Numbers: _____



District 5



Sgt. Andrew Harnett

