

The Hill Creek Chronicle

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SPECIAL EDITION: SECURITY ALERT

The HOA Board would like to make all residents aware of a recent break-in, potential attempted break-ins and suspicious activity that have occurred recently in our neighborhood. The one confirmed break-in occurred recently on Saturday March 18th during the middle of the day. The thieves forced entry through a locked front door and ransacked the house. They took money, jewelry and prescription drugs. That same day, a homeowners security camera showed two men dressed in black jumping the fence and sneaking around the home until a dog scared them off. Since that time, someone has reportedly observed suspicious people prowling around the neighborhood at night in dark clothing. Another homeowner reported that there was someone going around door-to-door posing as an employee of a business that the homeowner found did not exist when they attempted to look it up.

The HOA Board is asking that residents report any suspicious activity to the King County Sheriff. If you observe a break-in, please dial 911 to report the criminal activity. The best thing we can do is look out for our neighbors and help one another protect our property from theft. Please do not attempt to approach or apprehend any suspected thieves. Although there has been no indication they are armed and seem to target only houses they believe are unoccupied, such matters should be left to the police when there is no imminent danger.

Although the individuals that have recently been targeting our neighborhood may soon move on to other areas, we should remain vigilant and watch out for one another. Unfortunately, we can likely expect to face the same issue again at some point, but we can be better prepared. Communicate with the HOA Board and your neighbors if you are approached by suspicious solicitors or notice unusually suspicious behavior. Don't be afraid to ask solicitors for identification and look up their businesses. If you are at all uncomfortable, do not invite them into your home or allow them to invite themselves inside. Please look out for your neighbors such as notifying them if you see they've left their garage door open or have packages on their doorstep. Keep your vehicle and residences locked at all times and keep a record of valuables with serial numbers.

To improve communications among our neighbors, the HOA Board has encouraged everyone to sign up for Nextdoor.com (www.nextdoor.com). Over 50 of your neighbors are already members. Not only is the HOA Board using it to post alerts about happenings in our neighborhood, but it is also a great venue for sharing about our community, recommendations for services, etc. with your neighbors. Additionally, the HOA Board has discussed setting up either a phone tree or text group for neighborhood security alerts that group members could use to communicate quickly and efficiently about potential concerns. The HOA Board would like to hear your thoughts on a possible phone tree or text group, as well as other ideas you may have for improving communications among neighbors. Please contact the HOA Board if you have any input or ideas.

Your current HOA Board members are Jeff Shaver (President), Larry Boitano (Vice President), Morten Haastrup (Treasurer), and Tom Giese (Secretary). You can contact the HOA Board any time. Visit our website at www.hillcreekhoa.com or contact the association manager Lori Nicolaus at 253-202-2673.