



Crime prevention and you—you can make a difference

First in a four-part series
 Crime prevention. It means making it harder for crime to happen. It means reducing the chances for criminals to victimize you and your neighbors. It means protecting people and property, and increasing community safety and well-being. Most of all, it means people like you and me taking responsibility for our own and our neighbors' security, and knowing and working with local law enforcement and our neighbors to protect our homes, our neighborhoods and our children.

Sheriff Roy Drago of Morrow County will be offering crime prevention in a four-part series of articles aimed at educating local citizens and encouraging participation in neighborhood crime prevention programs.

Chances of an American citizen being a victim of a violent crime are greater than that of being injured in a traffic accident. Statistics indicate about 40 million crimes are committed each year. In 1982 an estimated 3.2% of the nation's population (or about 1 out of 31 persons age 12 and older) was the victim of rape, robbery, or assault. This is equivalent to approximately six million Americans.

"Crime and the fear of crime are big problems which influence how we live," the sheriff said. "Figures and statistics don't tell the whole story because each incident of crime hurts all of us—our neighborhoods, our schools, our businesses, and our children."

"The most important resources we have in reducing crime and fear in our neighborhoods are neighbors working together to prevent crime," the sheriff added.

Citizens watching out for crime and reporting it to law enforcement have really made inroads against burglary in many communities. Cities throughout the country have reported steady declines in crime in their communities.

"Crime prevention activities are practical and direct approaches to reducing crime and fear in neighborhoods," the sheriff said. "Crime prevention is working in neighborhoods all around the country, and it can work in ours."

You can check with your local law enforcement agencies to see if your community has a neighborhood crime prevention program, or you can find out how to start one yourself.

"All that's needed for most neighborhood crime prevention activities are your eyes, your ears, a little of your time, and a lot of caring about the well-being of your neighborhood," Sheriff Drago concluded.

Port of Morrow wins softball tourney



Softball champs (back row, from left): Don Russell, Assistant Coach Vic Marchek, Larry French, Bob Miller, Barry Beyeler, Kevan Pratt, and Coach Jim Brewer. Front row, from left: Susan Russell, Ray Tracy, Wandy Tracy, Lisa Beyeler, Jan Brewer, and Joann Pratt.

Not pictured: Rick McNeerney, Sue McNeerney, Carol Marchek, Dirk Dirksen, Rose Mary Dirksen, and Sharon Dunlop.

By Troy Flug
 The Port of Morrow softball team concluded its very successful season with a victory in a tournament held at Lone early last week. The double-elimination co-ed tournament consisted of about the

same Port of Morrow team that captured first place in the Boardman Fourth of July softball tournament.

The team made its road to the championship game a little rougher by losing the first game to Arlington. They marched on, however, to win

the next three games and gain a spot in the championship.

Bristow's Market of Lone was the Port of Morrow's final opponent and victim as the Port beat Bristow's and claimed the title.

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