

HOCC - Area Crime Statistics

We provide these monthly crime statistics so that we all understand what is happening in our area and take appropriate precautions. Theft is a continuing problem that we should all be aware of. We know you appreciate the updates, and thank you for your feedback.

These are the compiled crime statistics for the HOCC-area (August 1 - 31). The cumulative amount of reported offenses (beginning December 17, 2010 to date) are in parentheses.

Theft Reports: 4 (43)	Drugs: 0 (5)
Assaults: 0 (15)	Vehicle Theft: 1 (4)
Burglaries: 4 (14)	Liquor violations: 0 (2)
Disturbances: 0 (14)	Weapon Offense: 0 (1)
Fraud/Forgery: 2 (10)	DU: 0 (1)
Vandalism: 1 (10)	Disorderly conduct: 0 (1)
Other Undefined Offenses: 0 (7)	

The majority of crimes continue to occur in a corridor between Lake Otis (east), New Seward Highway (west), O'Malley Road (north), and DeArmoun Road (south). Reports of thefts continue to out pace the other crimes. If you are a crime victim, please be sure to report it to the Anchorage Police Department so that the information is logged into the MOA's crime statistics database.

Compiled by Wayne Crayton, HOCC Steering Committee Member. Information is from Anchorage Police Department records at <http://crimemap.muni.org/>

Vocabulary of the Month: "Non-Conforming Structures"

A "nonconformity" is something that is not legal. There are two ways this happens.

A property owner can create a nonconformity by building a rental apartment attached to a primary residence in an area zoned only for single-family homes, or building a deck in the mandatory lot setback. These situations are immediately nonconforming, and illegal.

The other way a nonconformity can occur is when something was once was legal, but the law changed. This made that item, whether it is a structure or a use of a structure, illegal under the revised law. This use or structure is now nonconforming. The use or structure may gain permission to continue, however, severe restrictions are now placed upon the use or structure.

As an example, a garage is built on private property, but that lot was incorporated into the Municipality with the Hillside incorporation. Now, that garage is a nonconforming structure due to the fact that it is too close to the lot line. It is "grandfathered" in, and is allowed, but only in its present state. It cannot be enlarged, but may be reduced. It cannot be substantially altered unless doing so reduces the amount of nonconformity.

Say a tree falls on the garage, destroying part of the structure. If the damage is more than 50%, that garage cannot be fixed, but must be torn down. It cannot be rebuilt except on another location on the property that is legal.

The other issue involving nonconforming uses is that the property owner is limited in ability to sell the property, and financing often difficult to obtain. The rental apartment built must be removed or the deck torn down before the property can sell. Relocation of wells and septic may also be affected by a nonconformity. These are reasons that nonconformities are generally regarded as a "slow death" of the structure or use.

One of the issues involved in the Title 21 revision is that, if the rules change, nonconformities may greatly increase.

Is there a word or acronym you would like defined? Let us know by contacting HOCCnewslettereditor@gmail.com

AA

Huffman Park Cleanup Additional Details

Again, we thank all who participated in the Huffman Park "Devils Club Eradication Day". Thanks to a myriad of volunteers, including Huffman Elementary, Trinity Presbyterian, and the dedicated group of South High students, the volunteer hours required for Anchorage Park Foundation grant funding were completed!

Special recognition to Megan Holliday, the Director of Children's Ministry at Trinity Presbyterian and to Huffman Elementary parents who spearheaded this effort.

Thank you to all! Enjoy the park!

#####

From the President's Desk

I'm asking for your time.

Not a lot of your time, but at least two hours a month.

From 7 to 9 pm on the third Thursday, to be exact.

In return, I promise to start on time and end on time. I promise that you will learn something, will have the opportunity to share and meet others in your community. When you sign in at the meeting, be sure to include your email address. Each month, you will receive this newsletter, and you will be the first to know what is happening in your neighborhood. If you are already on our email list, I ask you to print a copy of this newsletter and share it with a neighbor.

Is there an issue you would like the Council to address? Simply let me know, and I will put it on the agenda.

Is there something going on in your neighborhood that you wish to share? We can add it to this newsletter.

Are you concerned about upcoming legislation or want the Council's help on a difficult situation? Give us the opportunity to participate.

In short, the Community Council is your first and best opportunity to participate in our Representative Democracy. You have the opportunity to participate in our future, simply by giving us two hours of your time.

*Pete Nolan, President
Huffman/O'Malley Community Council*

Just a Random Thought...
Help!!!! Somebody stole Summer !!!!!

Welcome New Members!

Thanks you for your support! Dues paying members are vital to our mission of two-way conversation and grassroots community input.

If you are not yet a dues-paying member, simply use the form at the bottom of this newsletter. Membership fee is only \$10 per person each year, and yes, we do accept larger contributions (please see instructions below). Your donations pay for a gratuity for our meeting location, community outreach events, office supplies and our priority - this newsletter! For our "snail mail" residents, you can become an "email person" by just letting us know, and save us some postage in the process!

And remember to contact us with your comments and concerns, because YOU CAN make a difference! Feel free to pass this e-Newsletter on to your neighbors, then remind them to join.

**Yes, I want to become a contributing member of HOCC
Enclosed is my contribution of \$10 per person for this year.**

Name:

Physical Address:

Mailing Address:

Phone (home & other)

E-Mail

Comments & Concerns:

**Mail to: Huffman/O'Malley Community Council, 1120 Huffman Road,
Suite 24, PMB 420, Anchorage, AK 99515**

Please note: Donations in a higher amount are greatly appreciated and accepted. For donations to be tax deductible, please make your check out to: FCC (Federation of

Community Councils) on behalf of "Huffman O'Malley Community Council". Please send this donation to the above mailing address and a tax deductible receipt will be provided. Thank You!