

CITIZENS AUXILIARY ADVISORY SHERIFF'S MEETINGS

DATE: July 6, 2023 and July 13, 2023

Mason County Fire had 250 acres burned. The YMCA housed 8 families. Two homes were saved from being consumed by fire. 14 fire districts assisted. Folks came from all over with trailers to remove and relocate animals to safety. Wal-Mart manager came to provide anything that workers might need. He supplied 19 pallets of water for the fighters and restocked fire houses. The Sheriff was extremely thankful for all who helped. He is convinced that Mason County is the best there is when trouble arrives. The cause is undetermined and is left to fire expert level. On August 15th officers can now arrest for drug possession and house for 180 days. A notice will be sent out to the public at a later date. Shelton High School has been experiencing a rise in drug overdoses. An officer was exposed to drugs during an inspection and needed to be sent to the hospital. After losing many canines recently, the department will permanently limit service dogs to 2. A German Shorthair will be added instead of a Shepherd. The Sheriff's Department received 330 firework calls during the holiday time frame. On August 13 at 12:00 p.m. there will be a Gay Rights Parade starting at Safeway and end at the Salmon Center. Traffic should not be blocked during the march. This parade is being supported by the Democratic Party. Crime is at a 13 year high. Murders up 13%. There have been 6 break-ins using a vehicle to smash and enter. To date Washington State has lost 445 officers for various reasons. There have been 47, 448 reported vehicles stolen throughout WA. Officer assaults are up 43% since 2022. Interest in becoming an officer has elevated, however after extensive background investigations which looked good, most applicants fail the polygraph process. No untrustworthy folks allowed!! Low wages for Mason County Officers are the real problem and elevates turnovers. Mason County has 12 dispatchers with an average of 24,000 calls a month. The North Precinct will soon be closing. It is relocating to the old fire station located on Old Belfair Hwy by November. The Charlie's Vision Foundation for the MC Sheriff's Office Mobile Command Vehicle was extensively discussed. Large companies are helping to donate funds, but local folks seem to be resisting. Any amount will be appreciated as it is felt that in events that can last for hours or much longer, a command and relief facility is very much needed, especially in rural areas. An attendee asked about Nar Can. Sheriff explained that application lasts for only 30 minutes and when the individual revives, they will scare surrounding folks with their noisy inhaling process and usually become very aggressive. It was explained that there is a difference between a heart attack and an overdose individual. The usual visual differences are that a heart attack victim is usually flat on the ground and an overdose victim usually is found in what is called a fentanyl slump.