

# WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

*A weekly update for residents, visitors, and workers in the District of Columbia*



*Friday, October 25, 2013*

## REMEMBER TO TAKE YOUR KEYS AND LOCK YOUR DOORS IF YOU GET BUMPED IN YOUR CAR

On Wednesday, October 23, 2013, at about 11:15 AM, a woman was stopped at a traffic light in the 1100 block of I Street, SE, when another vehicle struck her car from behind. When she exited her car to inspect the damage, she turned her vehicle off, took her keys and locked the doors. She spoke with the operator of the striking vehicle, who, moments later, left the scene without ever identifying himself. An observant citizen noticed that, while the woman was speaking with the driver, a second individual exited a different car, walked up to the passenger side of the victim's car and tried to open the door. When he was not able to gain entry to the vehicle, he returned to his car and both individuals vehicles drove off.

While the MPD cannot be certain of the intentions of this second person, the actions of this event are similar to previously reported carjackings. If that was their intent, the crime was thwarted because the potential victim followed the advice that the MPD has given the public in the past. Your car is replaceable, but you're not. Knowing how to respond in a situation may mean the difference between serious injury or death and walking away unscathed. Statistically speaking, your chances of being a victim of carjacking are very slim, and taking preventive measures can reduce that risk even more.

If you are involved in any incident that requires you to exit your car to inspect the damage or speak with the other driver, turn off your car's engine, take the keys out of the ignition and lock your doors when you get out. If you feel uncomfortable, please call 911 and an officer will respond to assist you with the exchange of information.

» The MPD offers a number of tips on how you can reduce your risk of becoming a victim of a carjacking as well as how to respond if a crime like this happens to you. Learn more at:  
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/carjacking>

## MPD STRESSES SAFETY, OFFERS ACTIVITIES AT DISTRICT STATIONS THIS HALLOWEEN

To help ensure that youngsters across DC have a safe and fun place to celebrate Halloween, many of the MPD police districts are holding special events to celebrate the spooky holiday. Festivities include parties, haunted houses and Halloween celebrations at each of the seven police stations. All of the events are free and designed to provide an opportunity for Halloween fun for young people and parents who might want an alternative to trick-or-treating in the community.

For those who will be out and about on Halloween, the MPD offers a number of common-sense safety tips to help keep young ghosts and goblins safe. For example, in selecting costumes, bright, reflective and flame-retardant materials are a must, as are comfortable, well-fitting shoes. Instead of masks, which can restrict vision, youngsters are encouraged to get creative with face paints. To promote their safety while walking, trick-or-treaters are reminded to stay on the sidewalk and to cross only at the corner (never between cars). Motorists need to slow down and be on the lookout for children. Homeowners are encouraged to turn on exterior lights and clean up any debris near their property that children could trip on. And, of course, youngsters should never go into peoples' homes, talk to or accept rides from strangers, or eat any goodies before adults have a chance to inspect them.



» Get Halloween safety tips as well as details on the MPD-sponsored Halloween parties, go to:  
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/halloween>

» Through SoberRide, adults who have done a little too much Halloween celebrating can get free cab rides home from 10 pm on Thursday, October 31 through 6 am on Friday, November 1. Please call 1-800-200-TAXI or #TAXI on your AT&T wireless telephone. For further details, visit:  
<http://www.wrap.org/soberride/>

## DRIVING IN DC THIS WEEKEND? PLAN YOUR ROUTE IN ADVANCE

With the AIDS Walk and the Howard University Homecoming Parade set for Saturday and the Marine Corps Marathon scheduled for Sunday, crowds will be heavy and many streets will be closed this weekend. Motorists could encounter possible delays if operating in the vicinity of these events and may wish to consider alternative routes. The Metropolitan Police Department and the DC Department of Transportation also wish to remind motorists in the vicinity of this event to proceed with caution as increased pedestrian traffic can be anticipated.

During the AIDS Walk on Saturday, October 26, 2013, streets around the National Mall will be closed to traffic to accommodate walkers from approximately 8:30 am – 11 am. Streets in the staging area – including Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, between 13th and 14th Streets – will be closed from 7 pm on Friday, October 25th through 2 pm on Saturday, October 26th.

Street closures related to the Howard University Homecoming Parade will begin as early as 7 am on Saturday, October 26th and remain closed until approximately 12:30 pm. The parade begins at 6th and Fairmont Streets, NW, and covers many streets around Howard University's campus.

On Sunday, October 27, 2013, runners from near and far will descend upon the area to participate in the Marine Corps Marathon. The race begins at 8 am in Arlington, Virginia, and then crosses the Potomac River into the District of Columbia. Streets along the race route will be closed beginning at 6:50 am and are expected to reopen by 1:30 pm. Among other roads, the Francis Scott Key Bridge and the Memorial Bridge will be closed to accommodate the runners.

» For a complete list of street closures as well as links to course maps, see the complete press release at:

<http://mpdc.dc.gov/newsroom>

## WEEKLY RESIDENTIAL STREET SWEEPING ENDS 10/31

The DC Department of Public Works (DPW) announced that weekly residential mechanical street cleaning will end for the season Thursday, October 31, 2013. "No Parking/Street Cleaning" restrictions will be lifted and motorists may park on posted, alternate-side, daytime sweeping routes without moving their cars on street-cleaning days. All other parking restrictions will remain in effect. Residential street sweeping will resume Monday, March 3, 2014, weather permitting.

Overnight sweeping along the District's major roadways, e.g., Pennsylvania, Georgia, Constitution, and Independence Avenues, will continue all winter, as weather permits. Motorists should obey the street sweeping signs posted along these streets.

» For more information on the DC Department of Public Works' Street Sweeping and Leaf Collection programs, go to:

<http://dpw.dc.gov>

### NEWS & NOTES

#### Also Noteworthy

**Tell Us How We're Doing.** MPD is now

part of Grade DC. We invite you to share your thoughts on our service – positive or negative – through MPD's email groups, our social media, or by visiting the Grade DC website. Get more information at <http://grade.dc.gov>.

**Join the MPD Reserve Corps.** The MPD Reserve Corps, a volunteer policing program is seeking new members. Applications are now being accepted at <http://dcpolicejobs.dc.gov>.

#### Information, ideas, or comments about this service?

Send an e-mail to **KAYLIN CASTELLI**, Manager of Internet Communications, at [kaylin.castelli@dc.gov](mailto:kaylin.castelli@dc.gov)

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