



(DSCF5224-crop_crop.JPG) Photo: Front: Kittrell Community Watch President Edward Woodlief and Henderson-Vance Crime Stoppers President Lorraine Watkins. Back (left to right): Crime Stoppers board members Billy Ford, Dr. Gene Wood, Bobby Choplin, and Sheriff's Deputy Craig Thorpe.

Crime Stoppers Review at Community Watch

Kittrell Community Watch met at the Kittrell Community House on September 24 for an overview on Henderson Vance Crime Stoppers. Kittrell President Edward Woodlief called the meeting to order and Dr. Gene Wood delivered the invocation.

Crime Stoppers board members presented a series of vignettes spanning key aspects of their program. Crime Stoppers President Lorraine Watkins said Crime Stoppers makes cash payments to informants to help solve crimes. She added all Crime Stoppers board members are volunteers and serve without pay. Board member Bobby Choplin explained how informants can get paid and still remain completely anonymous. He said payment amounts are coordinated with law enforcement agencies and payments can range up to \$2000, depending on the information and severity of the crime. Sheriff's Deputy Craig Thorpe cited several recent examples where Crime Stoppers tips helped solve crimes. Board member Dr. Gene Wood said the annual golf

tournament is the main fund raising event in addition to contributions from individuals and businesses. Board member Leonard Hight described the many partnerships with citizens, law enforcement agencies, and media, especially WIZS and the Henderson Daily Dispatch, that make Crime Stoppers effective. Hight closed with the motto: "Crime Does Not Pay, But Crime Stoppers Will".

Sarah Davis, Coordinator for the Advanced Living and Rehab Facility, will speak at the next Kittrell Community Watch meeting on November 19. This presentation will be of particular interest to senior citizens and their families. The Kittrell Community Watch web site (KittrellCommunityWatch.com/) provides more information on past and future programs.

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