Local News

Cheektowaga police warning those visiting cemeteries on Memorial Day weekend to take caution

By:

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(Interactive Media Not Supported by Print)

CHEEKTOWAGA, N.Y. (WIVB) - Cheektowaga Police are encouraging those planning to visit any local cemeteries during Memorial Day weekend to keep their valuables hidden out of sight in vehicles.

Those visiting grave sites are also encouraged to keep their car doors locked to deter criminals from entering.

"We do have incidents like this every year," said Assistant Chief Jim Speyer of the Cheektowaga Police Department. "It usually happens right around this time of year."

Speyer says it particularly occurs on days like Mother's Day, Father's Day, and Memorial Day, since so many people are visiting the resting places of loved ones.

"There are multiple ways," Speyer said. "They could be hiding when people are in the cemetery. They could be hiding off in the background. They could be coming through on a bicycle, or driving through in a vehicle."

The thought is a disturbing one to Jerry Sojka, who planted flags at the grave sites of veterans on Wednesday with fellow members of the Francis J. Donovan American Legion Post in Cheektowaga.

"I feel like they're taking advantage of the freedoms that we have them," said Sojka, who is a veteran.



Cheektowaga Police Department about a week ago



As MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND approaches, CPD would like to remind those who are planning on visiting any resting sites in our various cemeteries to PRACTICE GOOD CRIME PREVENTION and hide all valuables out of sight in your vehicles. Keep your car doors locked to deter criminals from entering. This is the time of year we start to get frequent reports of this kind of theft, so do the little things that can make a difference. And most of all, enjoy and be safe on this holiday weekend!!

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