

EAST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Introduction

This newsletter is distributed by e-mail to district personnel, area alders, neighborhood groups and other interested citizens. The purpose of this newsletter is to share information about police incidents, community events and general police operations and will focus mostly on events taking place in the East Police District. The mailing list of recipients has been developed from a variety of sources and I again encourage everyone to send me addresses of anyone else that you may hear of that is interested in receiving the newsletters.

EAST POLICE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

The East Police District is one of five geographical areas served by the Madison Police Department. The East District coverage area extends from Lien Road (south of East Towne Mall) on the north to the McFarland Village limits on the south. The west boundary is Lake Monona including the Division St and Olbrich Park area all the way east to the City limits east of Sprecher Road.

Greetings,

Do you ever see a convergence of police in your neighborhood and wonder what happened? Please feel free to call or email me with the time, date and location. I will be happy to let you know why police were in the area. My email is jklubertanz@cityofmadison.com.

If you have any general questions about policing or our policies that you would like to see answered in the newsletter for everyone, please email them to me.

Captain Jill Klubertanz

BURGLARIES, THEFTS REPORTS (Reported in October)

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES

- S. Fair Oaks, 10/6, evening, Pry marks on door frame and broken door lock. No entry.
- Delores Dr., 10/6, evening, bike taken out of open garage.
- Corry St., 10/15, overnight, attempted through window. No entry due to stick preventing window from opening all the way.
- Farrell St., 10/15 overnight, unlocked door.
- N. Marquette, 10/16, bike taken out of open garage.
- Corry St., 10/18, daytime, doors had pry marks, no entry.
- Waubesa St, 10/23, overnight, screen cut, entry through unlocked window.
- Union St., 10/25, overnight, entry through window.

SUSPICIOUS PERSON

On Oct. 23 at approx. 2 pm, a resident on Margaret St. saw a man walking behind a neighbor's home and trying the door on a second neighbor's home. The man left in a silver, 2 door car with a spoiler on the back. He was described as a white male, 20-25, thin build.

THEFTS

- 13 Collins Ct, Theft from auto, 10/1 and 10/02, window broken out of 3 vehicles.
- Howard Johnson's, E. Wash., Theft from auto, 10/3, window broken out.
- PPG Autoglass, Femrite Dr, 10/3, small metal trailer taken.
- Amsterdam Av., Theft from auto, 10/5, unlocked car.
- Tompkins Dr, Theft form auto, 10/6, window broken out.
- Clover La, theft from auto, 10/9, overnight, unlocked truck.
- S. Thompson Dr, theft from auto, 10/13, window broken out.
- Willard Av, theft from auto, 10/14, unlocked car.
- Unity Way, theft form auto, 10/16, wallet taken from car.
- Star Spangled Tr., theft from auto, 10/17, unlocked car.
- Eastland Way, theft from auto, 10/23, unlocked car

GRAFFITI

- N. Thompson, 10/18, public sidewalk spray painted.
- Nakooso Tr., 10/19, front of bldg spray painted.
- Olbrich Park Beach Shelter spray painted.

LAFOLLETTE HIGH SCHOOL (The Educational Resource Officer (ERO) is Officer Greg Rossetti)

Below you will find summaries of the more significant police incidents that occurred at LaFollette High School in October. Many East side residents and parents of LaFollette students, have requested this information so they can stay informed about the types of incidents occurring at the High School. I believe they will also make you aware of the challenges our educators face in today's world. But it is important to remember that considering the large number of students at LaFollette High School, over 1600, these incidents are very few and isolated. You will also notice from the descriptions of the incidents, that these problems typically occur between students known to each other. For the average student, LaFollette is a safe learning environment with many opportunities for students to become involved in both educational and fun activities. Our officers have had many positive contacts with students that are not typically discussed in this newsletter. Overall, in my experience with LaFollette High School, I have always found the school staff to be exceptionally caring about the students and constantly striving to maintain the safest environment possible.

Incidents:

While the principal and school officer were contacting a 14 yr old student about possibly possessing marijuana in school, they discovered a folding knife on his person. The student stated he needed it for his job, but it was later determined he was not employed at the business he claimed. He was charged with having a dangerous weapon on school grounds.

The ERO observed members of two rival gangs arguing and "posturing" during a lunch period. It appeared the two were about to start fighting when the ERO and staff intervened. One of the 16 yr old students was found to have a knife concealed in his waistband. He was charged with having a dangerous weapon on school grounds.

Two female students, ages 14 and 16, argued then began to fight. School staff was able to intervene and physically break up the fight. The disagreement was over a boy. Both were cited for Disorderly Conduct.

A 15 yr old male student was arguing with his 16 yr old girlfriend because he was refusing to return her cell phone. When school staff attempted to intervene the male student began to swear and rip down posters in the area. He then ran at one of the staff members with his fists clenched as if he was going to attack her. Other school staff was able to stop the student until the ERO could assist. When asked by the ERO to return the phone, the student threw it to the ground, breaking it. The student was charged with Disorderly Conduct and Damage to Property.

Two male students, ages 14 & 15, battered a 16 yr old male student on school grounds outside of the school. School staff intervened. The fight is believed to be over a girlfriend. The two students were charged with battery.

ARMED ROBBERY

On Oct. 19, at 10:30 am, two men entered the Payday Loans at 2717 E. Washington Av. One of the men was armed with a handgun. They demanded money and fled in a silver car described as a 4dr, newer, larger similar to a Buick Park Avenue with an unk license plate. Suspect 1 is a black male, approx 16 years of age, medium height, medium build with shoulder length braids. Wearing a black Sox hat. Suspect 2 is a black male, approx late 30's to early 40's. Light skinned. Medium build. Mustache, brown cap, drk colored leather waist length coat.

ARMED ROBBERS ARRESTED

On Oct. 7, just after midnight, two armed, masked men entered the Packers Inn on Cottage Grove Rd. They robbed the bar, customers and pried open gaming machines. By Oct. 13, detectives had developed suspects in the case and planned on doing a search warrant at one of the suspect's homes. Hours before the search warrant, the suspects committed another armed robbery at a bar in the County. During the search of the suspects' homes by our detectives, evidence of the robberies were recovered and both suspects were taken into custody.

MAN ROBBED

On Oct. 19, at 1:30 pm, an elderly man was walking in the 4400 blk of Milwaukee St. when a white male walked up behind him, reached into his pants pocket and took his wallet. The white male fled down Milwaukee St. The elderly man was not hurt. The suspect was described as 16-20 yrs old, 6', brn shaggy hair. A few day later, McFarland Police Department contacted us, after finding the man's wallet in the car of a person they arrested for other charges. The person will also be charged with this robbery.

WOMAN ROBBED

On Oct. 26, at 1 am, two women were walking to their car in the lot of Packers Inn on Cottage Grove Rd. when a man ran up and grabbed the purse from one of the women. The woman fell to the ground and received a minor injury. Officer checked the area and located her purse with all of the contents behind a building about 1 blk away. The man was described as a white male, late 20's to early 30's, 6', 170, dark wavy hair.

SUSPICIOUS PERSON

On Oct. 24, in the afternoon, a female resident heard her sliding glass door smash. She ran to the door and saw a man running away. He appeared to be a black male, with a medium build.

JUVENILE ARRESTED STARTING FIRES

On Oct. 1 a 13 yr old was arrested after he was seen lighting paper and pizza boxes on fire behind the PDQ on Milwaukee St. He had runaway from a group home.

OFFICER INJURED IN CRASH

On Oct. 5, an officer was responding with red lights and siren to a domestic where a male was punching a female in the face. The officer was outbound on Milwaukee St. and had just passed under the Hwy 51 bridge. The vehicles in the left lane of the exit ramp from NB Hwy 51 had stopped at Milwaukee St. for the red light and saw the approaching squad car. As the officer began to enter the intersection, the light for the vehicles on the ramp turned green. A pickup truck was traveling in the right lane approaching Milwaukee St. The driver of the truck and the officer did not see each other due to the stopped cars in the left lane. The squad collided with the the truck causing it to flip over. The driver of the truck was not injured. The officer was treated and released for minor injuries.

UNCONSCIOUS MAN PULLED FROM BURNING CAR BY OFFICER - ARRESTED FOR ELEVENTH TIME DRUNK DRIVING

On Oct. 14 at 2:14 am, a citizen reported a van driving into parked cars. The van was traveling on Dempsey Rd. when it struck a vehicle parked on one side, veered across the road and struck a vehicle parked on the other side.

The van then struck a parked trailer, pushing it into a second parked trailer. The van backed away from this crash and continued driving. An officer spotted the van near Davies and Drexel. The officer, Officer Amelia Soto attempted to stop the vehicle but it accelerated and attempted to elude the officer. The driver lost control a short distance later, in the 4200 blk. of Major Ave., and struck a tree. The vehicle started on fire. PO Soto approached the vehicle, noted the doors were locked and the driver was unconscious. At this point the entire engine compartment was engulfed in flames. Off. Soto reached through the partially open driver window and was able to roll the window down far enough to open the door from inside. She then dragged the driver from the burning car. Several other officers arrived and used fire extinguishers from their squads in an attempt to keep the fire under control. The Madison Fire Dept. responded and put out the vehicle which was a total loss. The driver was ID as Donald Wiessinger, 50, Madison. He was treated at a local hospital prior to being booked into the Dane County Jail.

HOME INVASIONS - TYPICALLY NOT INNOCENT VICTIMS

We had two home invasions recently. The term "home invasion" is not actually a legal charge, but rather a descriptive term that indicates that a robbery occurred by suspects confronting the victims in their own home. Most of the time, these home invasions are actually robberies of drug dealers by others who know the dealer has drugs and/or cash in their home. The few home invasions involving truly innocent victims have typically occurred when the robbers accidentally go to the wrong house or go to a house where the dealer no longer lives and tries to rob the new residents. As you read the accounts of these two recent incidents, you will see that we couldn't invent stories like this because they would be too unbelievable.

One recent home invasion occurred on Blossom Lane on Oct. 27. The "victim" indicated that he had invited 2 people over to smoke marijuana. One of the friends went to his car to get something and when he returned, he was followed into the apartment by two masked gunmen who proceeded to rob the victim and then almost as an after thought, robbed the friends as well. When they left, the robbers left the resident there, but took the 2 friends with them. After many hours of interviewing the "friends" and their roommates, it was learned that one of the friends was mad at the drug dealer "victim". He set up the robbery so that while he and his friend were at the apartment, two other friends would pose as robbers and rob the victim. It didn't take a lot of sleuthing to figure this one out, but it did take an incredible amount of police resources. The suspects initially refused to come out of their Sun Prairie residence. Sun Prairie police surveilled the home for several hours until the last two suspects eventually came out. Meantime, Madison detectives wrote applications for search warrants and interviewed the first two suspects and their roommates to determine exactly who had been involved in the robbery.

Another home invasion occurred on Nov. 10 at an apartment on Vernon Ave. The "victims", a teenage resident and his teenage friend reported that the friend had received a phone call from someone he knew, later to become the "suspect". The suspect and his 3 accomplices were visiting from Milwaukee and wanted to come over to hang out with the victims. After a short time in the apartment, the suspect pulled out a gun and robbed the resident and friend. The suspect and his friends fled when the victim's mother heard the commotion, saw the gun and chased the men from the apartment in her wheelchair. The suspect and his friends were stopped by police a short distance from Vernon. The gun was a BB gun. One of the accomplices had stated that they came to Madison to buy marijuana because they can get better quality here than in Milwaukee.

Captain's Farewell

This will be the last East District Newsletter that I will be writing. After 30 years of service with the Madison Police Department, I will be retiring at the end of the year. For the remainder of the year, I will be working part time on two special projects. Lt. Carl Strasburg will be the acting Captain of the East District until January 11, when Captain Tom Snyder takes over as the new East District Captain. Many of you will remember Captain Snyder from his years as a lieutenant with the East District. Some of you know Captain Snyder as a long time East side resident involved in many neighborhood and school events. Captain Snyder has been with the Department for nearly 20 years. He is extremely dedicated to serving the residents of Madison and I am certain that you will be pleased with his leadership of the East District. It has been an honor to serve you, the residents and business owners in the East District.

Take care. Be safe.

Captain Jill Klubertanz
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