

Madison Police Department

West Police District Newsletter



About WPD



Captain Jay Lengfeld

Traffic issues are still the number one concern for residents of the West Police District. Officers spent many hours dealing with the 225 crashes—one that was a fatality—that occurred in the West District in April. Also, forty-five percent (45%) of the speeding complaints that were called into the "Speeder's Hotline" in the first quarter of this year were from our district. District officers made a concentrated effort in traffic enforcement in the Hammersley and Whitney Way area writing over 50 tickets for speeding. Our afternoon shift (2nd), also applied non-enforcement techniques to slow down traffic in the area, which was very effective. Everybody who lives, works, or drives through the district needs to take responsibility for this issue. Drive the speed limit, focus on driving and show respect to your fellow drivers.

City staff and the Allied Task Force have been working very hard on the re-development plan for the city owed property on Allied Drive. The re-development will be a key part in making Allied Drive a better place to live. Calls for police service to the area continue to decrease from last year's numbers. We are seeing real promise for the area in the future.

This is your last chance to take the MPD West District Community Survey because it will close on May 31st. Take it today by going to:

www.cityofmadison.com/police/west.html

Patrol Operations



Lieutenant Victor Wahl

The Madison Police Department responded to **2,738** calls for police service in the West District during the month of April, an average of about **91** per day. These incidents included:

4	Sexual assaults
6	Robberies
5	Aggravated batteries
12	Weapons offenses/gun calls
29	Burglaries
15	Thefts from autos
13	Stolen autos
225	Motor vehicle accidents
33	Batteries
70	Retail thefts
107	Disturbances

Some of the noteworthy incidents:

Injury Accident, High Point Road & Mid Town Road – On April 1st at about 2:30am, WPD officers responded to a single car crash at the intersection of High Point Road and Mid Town Road. Two passengers in the vehicle sustained minor injuries. The vehicle struck a transformer, leaving many in the area without power for several hours.

Robbery, 7825 Big Sky Drive – On April 2nd at about 9:30pm, WPD officers responded to the Point Cinema, 7825 Big Sky Drive, for a robbery. A mother and her daughter were confronted by two subjects in the back lot of Point Cinema. One of the suspects displayed a handgun. The suspects took money and other items from the victims and fled the area on foot. Investigation continuing.

Patrol Operations Continued...

Stabbing, 5400 University Avenue – On April 5th at about 11:00am, WPD officers responded to the 5400 block of University Avenue for a stabbing. Investigation showed that a 19 year-old female victim sustained two minor stab wounds to her hand. A suspect vehicle was stopped a short time later downtown, and two suspects were taken into custody.

Injury Accident, Whitney Way & Hammersely Road – On April 10th at about 8:30am, WPD officers responded to the intersection of Whitney Way and Hammersely Road for an injury accident. Investigation showed that a vehicle traveling on Hammersely Road had failed to stop for the stop sign at the intersection with Whitney Way. As it entered the intersection it struck another vehicle, causing it to roll over. One subject was conveyed to a local hospital with non life-threatening injuries.

This intersection has been the location of several significant accidents over the past six months. West District command staff have been meeting with neighborhood groups to discuss ways to improve safety at this intersection. WPD personnel have been focusing traffic enforcement efforts in the area, and residents have reported a positive impact on vehicle speeds and safety in the area. We will also be exploring physical improvements to the intersection, including better signage and lighting.

Drug Investigation, 7200 Mineral Point Road – On April 24th at about 8am, an officer responded to a business located in the 7200 block of Mineral Point Road for a suspicious package. Investigation showed that employees had noted that a toilet was not working properly. When a plumber attempted to fix the toilet, he discovered a bag of crack cocaine located in the toilet, causing the malfunction.

Arson Investigation, 3300 Prairie Road – On April 24th at about 5:30am, WPD officers responded with the Madison Fire Department to a car fire in the 3300 block of Prairie Road. Responding personnel discovered that an unknown subject had thrown a molotov cocktail into the car, starting it on fire. The car was not occupied, and no one was injured. Investigation continuing.

Traffic enforcement: West District officers issued **412** total citations in April, consisting of **204** "hazardous" traffic violations (speeding, reckless driving, etc.); **71** "non-hazardous" traffic violations (typically equipment, registration or licensing violations) and **137** municipal ordinance violations (disorderly conduct, retail theft, etc.). This is an average of about **8** citations per officer.

Neighborhood Officers

Allied Drive



Officer Jason Ostrenga



Officer John Messer

Nice weather has come to Allied Drive. Unfortunately, with the nice weather we have seen an increase in foot traffic in the area including the back parking lots. Residents should inform family and friends visiting the area that buildings in the Allied Neighborhood are clearly marked "No Trespassing."

Section 23.07(2) of the Madison General Ordinances, makes it unlawful for any person to enter or remain on any property of another or to enter or remain in any building of another after having been notified by the owner or occupant not to enter or remain on such premises. Madison Police Officers are authorized to arrest any person violating this ordinance. In most cases, people contacted on private property who are not with a resident or conducting official business will be given a ticket for "No Trespassing". The current ticket amount is \$424.00. Feel free to contact one of the Allied neighborhood officers if you have any questions about the "No Trespass" Ordinance. Also, if you are a landowner or property manager needing more "No Trespassing" signs please contact the West District Station.

Just a reminder -- Allied Fest is fast approaching. The Fest will be June 9th from 12-5pm in the area next to the Boys and Girls Club. This annual event includes food, music and information booths. This year come down and meet a member of the Madison Police K-9 unit.

Lastly, we are still seeing a decrease in calls for police service in the Allied Drive area. In April 2006, we had 355 calls for service. This year, in April 2007, we had 205 calls for service. Despite the lower calls for service, the Police still had a 12% increase in physical arrests in area. The Madison Police Department remains committed to the Allied Drive Neighborhood and will continue its efforts to decrease violence in the area.

Wexford



Officer Cindy Thiesenhusen

With the summer season quickly approaching, I am expecting calls for police service in the Wexford neighborhood to increase. As yet, the calls are steady from March. In March, there were 43 total calls for service and in April there were 41 calls for service. This is a great trend that I hope will continue. In looking at calls for service in past years, 2007 is proving to be a low calls year for Wexford Ridge. In April 2006, there were a total of 61 calls for service. When there are 20 less calls for service than the year before, this goes to show the quality of life is improving. Both the Police Department and the Management are working hard at making the quality better for all residents. Teamwork is essential.

The big calls consist of; disturbance calls to various areas of the property, domestic/family problems, noise complaints, and 911 disconnects. One issue that will be following up with is the boom ordinance training. I have had a number of car noise complaints come to me via email and telephone. I will be setting up training for area residents to get that underway.

August 30th 2007, Wexford Management and I will be hosting our 2nd annual 'Connections' summer kids party. Last year was a huge success and we are looking forward to making it even better this year. We have a lot of ideas and looking for more. This will be a neighborhood only party, but invite anyone with ideas to help.

calls for police service are down and vacancy rates are up. Preventing displacement will require the smart allocation of combined City resources as warning signs appear in other neighborhoods. This is likely to involve a redirection of federal Weed and Seed grant money from Allied to other sections of the Southwest side. This would result in more boots on the ground. In addition, the City also will be considering the creation of a "neighborhood improvement district." This would allow for special assessments to fund targeted resources at designated neighborhoods. The funding could be used to create more standardized rental management practices in at-risk areas. Finally, the City is looking at ways to further coordinate enforcement efforts with the Department of Corrections probation and parole agents.

The bad news is that gunshots have been occurring frequently in the Hammersley area. Detectives are investigating these shootings. Arrests have not been made yet, but the detectives are working active leads. The detectives have gathered physical evidence and witness statements. We believe that the shootings are not random, and that the shots are intended to scare specific individuals in the neighborhood. We believe that the shootings are retaliation for an incident involving gang and drug activity on the South side earlier this year. To the best of our knowledge, none of the involved parties are lawful tenants in the area; rather they are associates of lawful tenants. This is a familiar situation where even responsible landlords find themselves housing criminals because every tenant comes with a wide circle of friends and relatives who cannot legally be subjected to a background process. I have already notified the specific landlords involved in this situation, and we will be working together to find a quick resolution.

Hammersley



Officer Caleb Bedford

I have good news and bad news. One piece of good news is that the push for the chronic nuisance ordinance appears to be nearing its end. I expect that the Common Council will vote on the proposal very soon (and I will be contacting some of you soon to make statements to the Council). Another bit of good news is that the Southwest side of Madison is getting the attention of the highest levels of City government. City managers inside and outside the police department are trying to prevent significant displacement of criminal activity from Allied Drive. In the Allied area,

Memorial High School



Officer Shannon Blackamore

Recently, I attended training on Internet Safety for Children in Wisconsin Dells. The following excerpts are from an article regarding the CyberTipline for reporting the Sexual Exploitation of Children.

"The Internet has created an exciting new world of information and communication for anyone with access to online services. While this world offers unparalleled opportunities

Memorial High continued...

for children and adults to learn about the universe we live in, some risks and dangers exist for children as they travel through Cyberspace. This may include access to illegal content on the web or receiving inappropriate and unsolicited electronic mail (E-mail) or chatroom messages. In addition individuals who prey on children have quickly adapted to the online community of the Information Age and often use computer technology to seek unsupervised access to and contact with children."

To better safeguard children while online, key public and private sector leaders joined with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) on March 9, 1998, to launch the Cyber Tipline. The Cyber Tipline allows individuals to report incidents of child sexual exploitation including:

- Possession, manufacture, and distribution of child pornography.
- Online enticement of children for sexual acts
- Child victims of prostitution
- Sex tourism involving child victims
- Extrafamilial molestation of children
- Unsolicited, obscene material sent to children
- Misleading domain names

Seven days per week, 24 hours per day, NCMEC is fully staffed to handle leads then distribute those leads to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. The Internet is being used in a number of ways to target and sexually victimize children. The best way to reduce the risks on the Internet is to understand the potential dangers, watch for abuses, and immediately report them. Using the CyberTipline at www.cybertipline.com will greatly help in the fight against child sexual exploitation on the Internet.

Community Policing Team



Sergeant Linda Kosovac

The success and productivity of our unit is directly related to the information, tips and complaints we receive externally from the community and internally from other members of our department and other law enforcement agencies. Without a constant exchange of information, we would not be able

to do our jobs. A good example of this cooperation, involved information Detective Jeff Twing passed along to our unit this past month. He had established a good relationship with the manager of a large apartment complex on Schroeder Road, who relayed information reference a possible drug dealer, known to be armed and was wanted through probation and parole. With the information he provided to us, we were able to stop and arrest the suspect and did, in fact, locate two loaded firearms and evidence of drug dealing. Because this suspect was a convicted felon with a lengthy violent history, we then contacted the U.S. Attorney's Office. (The U.S. Attorneys have been diligently pursuing violent offenders and have been aggressive in their prosecution of these offenders, especially those possessing firearms). As a result, this suspect was recently federally indicted. This case is a great example of a successful outcome through a cooperative effort. Keep those tips coming!

Traffic Safety

Officer Greg Kamoske – Traffic Enforcement Safety Team



Did you know that teens aged 15-20 make up about 8.5% of the U.S. population, but account for almost 14% of traffic fatalities?



Did you know that the number one killer of U.S. teenagers is motor vehicle crashes? In fact, approximately 44% of teen-aged deaths each year are due to motor vehicle crashes, far greater than deaths due to homicide (19%), suicide (14%), or other causes (23%).

Additionally, in 2005, 62% of teens aged 15-20 that died in motor vehicle crashes were not wearing their seat belt at the time of the crash. Furthermore, 77% of the passenger vehicle occupants who were in a fatal crash and who were buckled up, survived the crash.

May 21 is the start date for this year's Click It Or Ticket initiative. As in past years, law enforcement officers around the country will be increasing their efforts to

Traffic Safety continued...

educate motorists and passengers, as well as enforce seat belt laws. I would encourage everyone to always wear their seatbelts, and talk to your teenager about the fact that wearing a seatbelt every time they get into a motor vehicle can make a difference between life and death. Regular seat belt use has been shown to be THE SINGLE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY to protect people and reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes.

You can also tell your teenager that nearly every week in Dane County, a vehicle occupant is ejected during a crash. One of the deadliest outcomes in any vehicle crash occurs when passengers get ejected from the vehicle-with most ejections coming from failure to wear seat belts. In fact, 75% of vehicle passengers who were totally ejected from their vehicle in 2005 were killed. But only 1 in 100 drivers and passengers in fatal crashes who were wearing their seat belts were totally ejected. Please share this info with anyone you know who rides in a motor vehicle, so that together we can help reduce significant injuries and fatalities in motor vehicle crashes this summer.

The West District Landscape Gets a Makeover

The West Police District Master Gardeners have been very busy these last thirty days. They have planted close to 160 plants, that they have donated or donated by staff of the district. The station looks so much better! A big thank you goes to Master Gardeners Ann Windell, Sheri Rembert, Victoria Woodward, and Dale Meier.



Before



Before



After



After