

# Madison Police Department

## West Police District Newsletter



## About WPD



**Captain Jay Lengfeld**

I would like to give you an update on the Southwest Safety Initiative we started in the middle of September. Since then, we have used (through October) about 375 officer hours of overtime dedicated to traffic enforcement, foot patrol and parks patrol. These efforts have resulted in the issuance of 228 citations and 3 physical arrests. City Forestry and Traffic Engineering have made street lighting improvements to the area. Building Inspection has also been working in the area to improve housing and the appearance of the neighborhoods.

The West Police District has an email address that will be used by the Neighborhood Watch Groups in the district to share information with the police district. The information that will be shared will be on general crime patterns occurring in the district and other safety issues. This address is **not** to be used to report individual crime incidents, but to be used by Neighborhood Watch Coordinators to share what they are seeing or hearing in their neighborhoods. Individuals that are Neighborhood Watch Coordinators will be put into an email group and kept up to date on safety issues in the district. This is part of a program we are calling "**West Police District Neighborhood Watch Information Network**", so the email address is:

[wpdnwin@cityofmadison.com](mailto:wpdnwin@cityofmadison.com).

If you are a Neighborhood Watch coordinator and would like to be in the email group, please send me your email address at the above address.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

## Patrol Operations



**Lieutenant Victor Wahl**

The month of October was a challenging month for MPD, as the department prepared for and staffed the annual Halloween weekend festivities downtown. A great deal of planning takes place throughout the year for an event this large, and almost every MPD employee works the event. This year's event went quite well, with relatively few incidents.

The Madison Police Department responded to **3,165** calls for police service in the West District during the month of October, an average of more than **102** per day. These incidents included:

7	Sexual assaults
12	Robberies
7	Aggravated batteries
8	Weapons offenses/gun calls
65	Burglaries
42	Thefts from autos
18	Stolen autos
269	Motor vehicle crashes
36	Batteries
125	Retail thefts
119	Disturbances
86	Domestic Disputes

Some of the noteworthy incidents:

**Robbery, 4902 Verona Road** – On October 1 at about 11pm WPD officers responded to the Speedway Gas Station at 4902 Verona Road for a robbery. A female returned to her vehicle after making a purchase and discovered a male suspect in the back seat. The suspect threatened the victim with a knife and demanded money. Investigation continuing.

### Operations Continued...

**Robbery, 6700 Schroeder Road** – On October 1 at about 1:44am WPD officers responded to an apartment complex in the 6700 block of Schroeder Road for a robbery. A subject robbed another subject with a facsimile firearm in the parking lot, but was subdued by friends of the victim and arrested by officers.

**Robbery, 5445 University Avenue** – On October 2 at about 10pm WPD officers responded to a robbery at the Stop-n-Go at 5445 University Avenue. The clerk reported being robbed by a man wearing a mask and armed with a knife. An MPD K9 unit responded, and tracked the suspect. The K9 first located the knife used in the robbery along the path the suspect had fled, and then led officers to an area where the suspect was located and arrested.

**Robbery, 5504 University Avenue** – On October 3 at about 3:45pm WPD officers responded to a robbery at Capital Jewelers, at 5504 University Avenue. The victim reported that a suspect armed with a hammer had attempted to rob him. During the incident, the suspect had swung the hammer at the victim, nearly striking him. The victim observed the suspect flee on foot and enter a nearby apartment building. An MPD K9 unit responded and assisted in taking the suspect into custody.

**Weapons Offense, 2200 Allied Drive** – On October 11 at about 5pm WPD officers responded to a report of shots being fired in the 2200 block of Allied Drive. Witnesses reported hearing shots and observing a suspect armed with a long-barreled handgun. It appears that the suspect had exchanged shots with someone in a passing car. Officers believed that the suspect had entered a nearby apartment building, so an MPD K9 unit responded to check the building for evidence. The K9 located a handgun in the basement of the building and a shell casing outside the building.

**Enticements, Southwest Madison** – During the latter part of October, WPD officers investigated a number of incidents where a suspect would contact females in a suspicious manner. These incidents generated a significant amount of community concern. On October 26 at about 5pm, a WPD patrol officer observed a vehicle matching the suspect vehicle description from the prior incidents. The officer stopped the vehicle and arrested the driver for a minor traffic violation. The driver was interviewed and confessed to being involved in all of the prior incidents.

**Burglary, 3400 Bluff Street** – On October 29 at about 11am, WPD officers responded to a residence in the 3400 block of Bluff Street for a burglary in progress. A neighbor had witnessed a suspect enter a residence by breaking a window. Officers responded and set up a perimeter on the

### Operations Continued...

house. A short time later the suspect exited the building and attempted to flee. He was taken into custody.

**Traffic enforcement:** West District officers issued **499** total citations in October, consisting of **184** “hazardous” traffic violations (speeding, reckless driving, etc.); **104** “non-hazardous” traffic violations (typically equipment, registration or licensing violations) and **211** municipal ordinance violations (disorderly conduct, retail theft, etc.). This is an average of about **10** citations per officer.

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## Neighborhood Officers

### Allied Drive



**Officer Jason Ostrenga**



**Officer John Messer**

In mid-October, we had the privilege of speaking to many young children at the Prairie Crossing Apartment complex about safety when out trick or treating. The kids were very enthusiastic and asked many questions. All the children were dressed up in an assortment of costumes. After we were done talking about safety the kids went around to residents of Prairie Crossing trick or treating. Some other highlights including a bobbing for apples contest which was enjoyed by many.

The Dane County Narcotics & Gang Task Force along with the Madison Police Department Emergency Response Team executed a high-risk search warrant in the 2400 block of Allied Dr. After the warrant was executed numerous items associated with illegal drug trafficking was recovered.

The last of the former Stanley buildings are under new management, as evidenced by the new shrubbery. The buildings include: 2210/2214, 2218/2222, 2226/2230 and 2314/2318 Allied Dr. The management company is: Anchor Property Management, LLC.

Lastly, good news continues regarding calls for service in the Allied Dr neighborhood compared to last year.

**Allied Continued...**

Below are some statistics reflecting this.

**Calls for Service**

October 2007 --- Total 147

October 2006 --- Total 290

Percent Change – 1 year = **- 49%**

**Specific call type yearly comparison:**

	2006	2007
Weapons Offense	7	2
Drug Incident	22	6
Fight	4	5
Disturbance	23	13
Domestic	16	8
Suspicious Person	8	2
Noise complaint	7	3
Parking Private	12	4
Information	25	2
Adult Arrest	7	7

There will be another 7 week session of drop in men's basketball at the Boys & Girls Club. It will run from November 29 - January 10. Every Thursday night from 9-11pm. Men only and it's **free**.

**Hammersley**



**Officer Caleb Bedford**

As most of you know, I soon will be ending my term as the Hammersley Neighborhood Officer. My replacement has been selected.

Between now and shift change, I will be coordinating the transition to the new neighborhood officer. In an attempt to keep issues from falling through the cracks, I will be drafting a list of ongoing problems for your new neighborhood officer. He and I will be working closely together during the transition. I will make arrangements for individual introductions with many neighborhood stakeholders. I will also schedule a large meeting so that all of you can meet the new officer in person and inform him of your concerns and priorities.

I can offer an update on the sentencing of Kordarow Moore. This is the hearing to which I invited all of you. Kordarow is currently facing three gun charges in three separate cases that are working their way through the state and federal systems. The first sentencing hearing is

**Hammersley Continued...**

on November 19 at 2:30 pm. This first hearing will provide an educational opportunity for any of you who are curious about the way various governmental entities approach gun crimes in your neighborhood. I will notify you if I become aware of any schedule changes, and I will let you know about hearings scheduled in the other cases. You can check for any last-minute schedule changes by entering his name at this link: <http://wcca.wicourts.gov>

Finally, I encourage all of you to read the latest news regarding modifications to the federal sentencing guidelines. Municipal law enforcement agencies like ours have been increasingly relying on these guidelines as a tool (along with crucial cooperation from the US Attorneys) to use against our most violent street criminals (e.g., Kordarow). I have strong opinions on these proposed modifications but I will not air them here. You can find dozens of articles on this issue by doing a Google News search for "sentencing guidelines for crack cocaine". The most recent Associated Press release is at this link: <http://www.abcnews.go.com/TheLaw/story?id=3860003&page=1>

**Community Policing Team**



**Officer Dan Nale**

Officers of the Community Policing Team, while part of patrol, are not usually required to respond to calls for service. As any patrol officer will point out, responding to calls for service is the lion's share of their work. Obviously then, this begs the question of what it is that Community Policing Officers actually do with their time. The following account is an example of what we might handle each week.

While out checking for a wanted subject on the far west side in early October, several officers and I were contacted by two parents greatly concerned about their daughter. According to them, their daughter was involved with a male who they felt was trying to control her life. They had suspicions that the male was involved in selling drugs and also knew the male was currently wanted by the Office of Probation and Parole (he had failed to show up for his required meetings). Further complicating matters was the fact that their daughter was pregnant and needed medical attention. Up until

### Community Policing Team Continued...

this point, the male had been successful in keeping their daughter from being in contact with them. The parents now requested our help.

After taking information from the parents, we were able to do a background check of both the suspect and daughter. We were able to discover that the suspect was indeed the subject of an arrest warrant from Probation and Parole. He further had a lengthy criminal history, and had been previously arrested for a domestic crime where the daughter had been the victim. All of this information seemed to give credence to the parents' statements. We were also able to connect with the suspect's Probation Officer.

The team then began surveillance on their apartment in an attempt to apprehend the subject. This proved unsuccessful, but we were able to get periodic updates from other cooperative tenants in the building as to when the suspect may have been home. In the meantime, the parents re-contacted us and informed us that another Madison Officer had interviewed them about their daughter being in a car with a suspect who was involved in an assault and retail theft. After conferring with that officer, it was found that the suspect had assaulted a theft prevention officer while trying to steal from a local store, and it was the same person we were looking for.

We continued our effort to locate the suspect and were finally able to do so by coordinating with the parents on information they had received on where the suspect and daughter may be hiding out. After a short surveillance, the two were seen leaving in a vehicle and the suspect was arrested. All told, this took the better part of a week from start to finish. At some points, it involved all our resources. Had we been responsible for calls for service as well, it would likely have taken much longer to arrest him. Another result of the investigation is we were able to follow up on the drug-dealing angle by obtaining a search of the suspect's residence, finding a duffle bag full of marijuana. In addition to his existing charges, the suspect was also charged with a drug offense. Certainly patrol officers would have liked to spend the extra time required in such cases but unfortunately with a high volume of calls for service that is not always feasible. Incidentally, the parents were relieved that their daughter was safe and sound and the last we heard things are going well with them.

## Memorial High School



**Officer Shannon Blackamore**

This past month at Memorial High School has been fairly busy. We've encountered a number of students who've decided that they want to "study the halls," instead of attending class and working on obtaining their high school diploma.

My focus has been to make contact with these students and try to address the issue in a number of ways. The first contact will typically involve a conversation with the student about the importance of attending class, and the responsibilities that come with being a young adult.

The next observation of a student either skipping class or making the halls their class period for that time of day, will result in a trip to the principal's office. This typically includes a call home to the parents and a counseling session with the Neighborhood Principal for the student.

On the third occasion, I make it my business to issue a truancy citation. This means that the student obviously has decided not to heed the important instructions from the principal or from me. I've had to issue a number of citations, but have found success mainly in the verbal warnings from me and the principals.

For those students that reside on Allied Drive, the municipal Judge has been willing to see those students at the Allied Boys and Girls Club. Ultimately, this will assist with helping students get to court and on time with their parents.

## Wexford



### **Officer Cynthia Thiesenhusen**

October was a great month in Wexford Ridge. Meridian Management has been busy with evicting problem tenants. There is success in this process as calls for service have dropped to an all time low. The Hispanic gang, 29<sup>th</sup> street gang, that rooted itself in Wexford over the summer has lost its housing here. I do not know where they found new housing, but that move was a big relief for the Wexford residents. Another resident who was housing a felony wanted subject for most of the summer was evicted after the Community Policing Team and I were able to arrest that person leaving the property. A family involved in other gang activity, armed robberies, weapons offences, and drug offenses was also evicted. These few evictions were significant in the reduction in calls for service and the health and safety of the neighborhood.

October had a total of 40 calls for service. 911 disconnects, noise complaints and juvenile disturbances were the top numbers for the month. There is nothing extraordinary to report.

One important piece of news to report is that the homicide jury trial for Britney Langlois was in October. She was convicted and her sentencing will be in the near future. If you don't remember this case, this was the homicide that occurred in Nov. 2006 on Flower Lane. It is important to note that this case was solved in less than 12 hours. The investigation was incredible and a job well done by the Madison Police Detectives.

I have had a few conversations with Jeff Livesey. Jeff is in charge of the property that is across the street from Wexford and from Memorial High School. Our discussions have been centered around lunchtime pedestrian traffic on his property. What are the main issues/problems and how can there be some sort of resolution to these issues/problems. We have discussed several options. One option that has come up and it is my understanding that there are plans in place is to put video cameras on the entire Livesey property. This includes businesses from Tree to Gammon to Mineral Point. I believe this would be an extremely useful tool and I highly encouraged it. Livesey is also currently looking to fill two vacancies to the building. Both Guarantee Bank and Foxies have left. I am highly encouraging Livesey to not put anything in that space that would invite High School students in. i.e., food or gaming. The conversation will continue as the school year progresses.

## **Wexford Continued...**

Also in the works is that the Tamarack neighborhood is planning on posting their property for no trespassing. This will give the department more power to arrest those causing problems on their property. They have been extremely reluctant to post it, but I believe it is ultimately in their best interest.