

NORTH FOND DU LAC POLICE DEPARTMENT

NORTH FOND DU LAC NEIGHBORHOOD POLICING TIMES



SPRING 2008

CHIEF LAMBS WELCOME

I trust that most of you are as anxious for spring to get here as I am. It's been a long winter and most of us are ready for the warmer temps, the landscape to change from white or brown to green, and, most of all, being able to put away our shovels or snow blowers for season! Let's just hope "Old Man Winter" packs his stuff and leaves us sooner than later.

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce you to two of our newer operational advancements; while they're very different, both are technology related. The first of these programs is the latest advancement in our Mobile Data Computer System (MDCS). For those that may not be aware, our MDCS is a computer network that ties our squad cars into local, state, and federal law enforcement computer systems and data bases. Each of our four marked squad cars is equipped with a mobile data computer. The latest system advancement is the implementation of the TraCS software and printers. The TraCS system provides us with a wireless link to automatically transfer citation and accident report data directly to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and our Municipal Court. The computerized preparation and transmission of this data eliminates several steps that have historically required manual/human labor; that obviously translates to a significant savings in both time and money.

We prepared and submitted a grant application to help us fund a significant portion of the TraCS system. I'm pleased to announce that we were recently notified that our grant application has been approved and we are eligible to receive up to \$17,484 for this project. This grant application will enable us to broaden the MDCS and TraCS network in our fleet. That grant application was prepared by Captain Darren Pautsch and Sergeant Troy Damsteegt – they are to be commended for their efforts in helping us to improve operations and saving the Village a significant amount of money!

The second technology related advancement that we're incorporating is the installation of a digital video recording system in our vehicle fleet. We've experimented with video recording systems in the past, but found that those older systems required more care and maintenance than they were worth. This new system is computerized (wireless and digital) and will require very little maintenance related to the storage of video files. Actually, there are no tapes or discs associated with this system – video files are downloaded wirelessly from the squad car's computer to a file server inside the police department. You've all undoubtedly seen enough news footage to understand how valuable video recordings have become in today's world of the police profession. So, smile if you have interaction with one of our officers in the vicinity of their squad car – you'll be on camera!

In closing, thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter – we hope it helps you learn more about your community and police department. Have a safe and enjoyable Spring!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 1—Election Day
- May 11—Mother's Day
- May 11 thru 17—National Police Week
- May 15—Peace Officer's Memorial Day
- May 25—Memorial Day
- June 8—Horace Mann High School Graduation

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

DARE FUNDRAISER	2
A CLOSER LOOK	2
ALERTS	3
SOLVED	4
COUGH MEDICINE	5
KEEP KIDS SAFER	7
TRACS	8

Winners of:

2005 WCPPA 'Crime Prevention Program/Project of the Year'

2001 WACOP 'Sir Robert Peel Award'

2000 WCPPA 'Outstanding Crime Prevention Program'

D.A.R.E. FUNDRAISER HELPS RECYCLE

The Police Department is excited to announce a new fundraiser to help with the operating costs of the DARE program. DARE is currently in the 6th grade classes but will be moving to the 5th grade classes at Friendship Learning Center next school year.

Officer Donovan Heavener is working with CARTRIDGE WORLD at 6663 Rolling Meadows Drive. The program provides a convenient location for collecting inkjet and laser cartridges while **raising money for the DARE program**. Here is how the program works:

- Drop off empty cartridges in the collection bins located in the offices at Bessie Allen Middle School, Horace Mann High School, Early Learning Center or drop them off at the Police Department.
- If you prefer to have your cartridges refilled at Cartridge World's Fond du Lac location, please let them know that you would like your purchase to benefit the North Fond du Lac DARE program.

The DARE program is largely funded through community donations and fundraisers, so your support is very important. Not only does this fundraiser benefit the DARE program, but it demonstrates the importance of recycling.

Thank you for your participation in the program and your help in making the DARE program a success in our community. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Officer Heavener at (920)929-3760 or dheavener@nfdl.k12.wi.us, or go to our website at www.nfdl.org/pd-Dare.htm.

A Closer Look at Sergeant Troy Damsteegt

Sergeant Troy Damsteegt started his career with North Fond du Lac in 1994

Sergeant Troy Damsteegt started his career as a police officer with the North Fond du Lac Police Department in January of 1994. Prior to coming to North Fond du Lac, Troy worked with the Waupun Police Department and Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Department as a Police/Fire/EMS/911 Dispatcher for four years.

During his 14 years of service to the Village of North Fond du Lac, Troy has been involved in many specialized programs including the DARE program (1999-2006) and the School Resource Officer program (2002-2006). Throughout his

tenure with the department, Troy has received numerous awards and commendations. These include: Fond du Lac County Law Enforcement Executive Association's Community Policing Award (2000); the Wisconsin Association of Community Oriented Policing Sir Robert Peel award (2001); two Distinguished Service Awards (2001); the Village of North Fond du Lac Employee of the Year Award (2003); and in other years three Chief's Merit Awards.

In addition to currently being a Sergeant assigned to the night shift, Troy has been a Field

Training Officer since 1996, an Evidence Technician and the department's Property Custodian since 2000, a Motorcycle Officer since 2006, and one of the department's Honor Guard members. Troy has received specialized training in: Interview and Interrogations; Investigation of Sexual Assaults; Protecting Children Online; and Responding to Missing and Abducted Children. In May of this year, Troy will receive a Bachelor of Administration of Justice degree from Marian College in Fond du Lac.

ALERTS

On December 13, a window was broken out of a vehicle parked outside a North Pioneer Road business. No suspects have been identified.

On December 22, a resident on Mockingbird Lane in Gaslight Terrace reported to police that the rear window was broken out of a vehicle parked in the driveway overnight. No suspects have been identified.

On December 24, a resident in the 100 block of Indiana Avenue told police that someone had obtained a credit card using his identity. The credit card had been used in the Milwaukee area. No suspects have been identified.

On December 27, a business on Prospect Avenue reported that an envelope containing \$170 was stolen from a desk drawer in the office. Police have interviewed several employees. No arrests have been made.

On January 12, police received a report that between 6-8 gallons of gas had been siphoned from the tank of a truck parked outside a North Pioneer Road business. No suspects have been identified.

On January 19, a resident in the 900 block of Michigan Avenue reported that someone had entered his home and stolen \$450 cash. No arrests have been made.

On January 25, a resident in the 600 block of Wisconsin Avenue reported that a hit & run driver struck her car while it was parked on the street. No arrests have been made.

On January 25, residents in the 500 block of Wisconsin Avenue reported that \$600 cash was stolen from a safe inside the home while they hosted a party. Police have interviewed a number of people; no arrests have been made.

On January 26, a resident in the 1000 block of Minnesota Avenue reported to police that he had given his account and routing information to a caller claiming to be from his bank. The following day, he discovered that someone had made an unauthorized transaction for \$395. No suspects have been identified.

On February 2, a resident in the 1200 block of Minnesota Avenue told police that someone had stolen an envelope containing \$161 from his unlocked vehicle while it was parked outside Spillman Library on January 25. No arrests have been made.

On February 23, a resident in the 700 block of Washington Avenue reported to police that someone had thrown eggs on the windshield of a vehicle parked outside the home overnight. No suspects have been identified.

On February 28, the occupant of a green four-door Saturn drove away from the Stretch Truck Stop without paying for gas. The man pumped \$11.31 worth of unleaded gasoline before driving off. No suspects have been identified.

On February 29, a resident at 427 Harrison Street reported to police that someone had poured water into his gas tank and caused damage to the bumper of his vehicle while it was parked in the lot. No arrests have been made.

The cases listed in the newsletter are not all of the calls that have been reported to NFPD.

These are cases that NFPD believes can be solved with information provided by the public.

HELP

North Fond du Lac
Police Department
Tipline:

906-4777 ext. 3

You can remain
anonymous.

SOLVED

On December 4, a resident in the 600 block of Wisconsin Avenue reported to police that neighboring tenants in the apartment building were playing loud music during the early morning hours. After those tenants were warned by police about the loud music, they continued to play loud music and began making harassing phone calls to the complainant. Two suspects were arrested for disorderly conduct, noise and underage drinking.

On December 7, police learned that a group home staff person had used a resident's checking account to make unauthorized personal purchases. Police were able to identify the suspect and make an arrest for Uttering and Identity Theft.

On December 7, police responded to a disturbance in the 700 block of Michigan Avenue. Investigation revealed that when the woman attempted to call her family following an argument with her husband, he grabbed the phone from her and threw it down the street. He was located and arrested for Disorderly Conduct – Domestic Abuse.

On December 11, police received a report from an anonymous caller who indicated they had seen a male take a Christmas decoration from the yard of a neighbor in the 700 block of Wisconsin Avenue. Officers were able to locate the suspect and issued him citations for theft and damage to property.

On December 12, the School Resource Officer was notified of a fight that had taken place between two students at the basketball game the previous night, and he also responded to a fight between two girls in the high school cafeteria. As a result of those two incidents, three arrests were made for disorderly conduct.

On December 15, residents in the 200 block of Clinton Street reported that they had received a threatening phone call from their adult daughter. The woman had called their home threatening to end their lives. The woman was arrested for Unlawful Use of a Telephone.

On December 16, police received a report from a resident in the 1600 block of Fairlawn Avenue that his debit card had been used for an unauthorized purchase at US Cellular. The suspect was identified and arrested for theft.

On December 26, following a month-long investigation into thefts from a residence in the 1300 block of Chapman Avenue police arrested the victims' grandson for Burglary, Theft and Operating a Motor Vehicle without Owner's Consent.

On December 29, police responded to a call for a man walking through the rail yard near Lakeshore Drive. Officers located the man, and he was issued citations for Trespass and Underage Drinking.

On January 2, police received a report from the Department of Public Works that the Community Center had been damaged during a New Year's Eve party. Police issued a citation to the renter of the property for Damage to Property.

On January 2, police received a report from a woman who was bitten by her sister's dog while visiting at a residence in the 1700 block of Minnesota Avenue. The dog's owner was issued a citation for an animal bite.

On January 17, police received a report of a female student at the high school attempting to sell

CITIZENS
TIPS HELPED
POLICE
SOLVE
MANY OF
THESE
CRIMES



(Continued on page 5)

SOLVED

prescription medications to other students. Two female students were arrested for Delivery of Narcotics.

On January 21, officers responded to a disturbance in the 1800 block of Thurke Avenue. A woman at the residence called police after her daughter was throwing items and punched a hole in the wall. The 17 year old daughter was arrested for Disorderly Conduct – Domestic Abuse.

On February 1, police received a report from a motel on North Pioneer Road that a phone and wall had been damaged inside one of the rooms. The 61 year old man who rented the room was arrested for Damage to Property.

On February 1, police were notified that a male student at the high school had brought a knife to school. The folding knife was found in the boy's possession. A charge of Possessing Dangerous Weapons Other Than Firearms was referred to Juvenile Court Services.

On February 3, officers responded to a business on North Pioneer Road for a report of a large group of juveniles who appeared to be intoxicated. Officers made contact with the group and issued 10 citations for underage drinking and one for disorderly conduct.

On February 8, officers responded to a call from a woman reporting that she had just seen her neighbor's estranged wife entering his unoccupied residence through a basement window. The woman was located and arrested for Criminal Trespass to a Dwelling – Domestic Abuse.

On February 16, police responded to a two vehicle accident at the intersection of Chapleau Street and Chapman Avenue. During the course of the investigation, officers determined that one of the drivers had been drinking. He was arrested for Operating While Intoxicated-1st offense.

On February 23, officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of Harrison Street. The parents at the residence called police after their son became verbally abusive toward them and slammed a door causing damage to the trim. The 15 year old son was arrested for Disorderly Conduct.

On February 28, the School Resource Officer was notified that a jacket, which had been stolen from the boys' locker room at the high school, was found in the possession of another student. An 18 year-old student was issued a citation for theft.

ABOUT COUGH MEDICINE ABUSE

What is cough medicine abuse?

Cough medicine abuse is a deliberate substance abuse behavior. It involves intentionally taking huge amounts—often 25 to 50 times the recommended dose—of over-the-counter (OTC) cough medicines containing dextromethorphan to get high. It is part of a recent, dangerous teen phenomenon of abusing both prescription and OTC medicines to get high.

How common is cough medicine abuse?

According to research conducted by the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, one in 10

(Continued on page 6)

CALL THE
NORTH FOND
DU LAC POLICE
FOR A FREE
HOUSE CHECK
WHILE YOU ARE
AWAY ON
VACATION



NEED IDEA'S TO
HELP YOU
START TO TALK
TO YOUR KIDS
ABOUT DRUG
ABUSE.

TIMETOTALK.ORG

ABOUT COUGH MEDICINE ABUSE

ABOUT 2.4
MILLION TEENS
HAVE ABUSED
COUGH
MEDICATION TO
GET HIGH.

teenagers—about 2.4 million young people—has abused cough medication intentionally to get high. Abusers of cough medicine often refer to dextromethorphan as Dex, DXM, Robo, Skittles, Syrup, Triple-C, and Tussin. Terms for using dextromethorphan include Robo-ing, Robo-tripping, and Skittling.

What is dextromethorphan?

Dextromethorphan is a safe and effective active ingredient found in more than 100 over-the-counter cough medications. First approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 1954, it is a non-narcotic, non-addictive cough suppressant that works by raising the coughing threshold in the brain. It is the most widely used cough suppressant in the United States. When used according to the medicine label directions, cough medicine containing dextromethorphan produces few side effects and has a long history of both safety and effectiveness.

What are the health consequences of abuse?

The effects of the abuse of dextromethorphan vary with the amount taken. Common effects include confusion, dizziness, blurred vision, slurred speech, loss of physical coordination, stomach pain, vomiting, and rapid heartbeat, and can vary from person to person. Those who have abused dextromethorphan describe different “plateaus” ranging from mild distortions of color and sound to visual hallucinations, “out-of-body” dissociative sensations, and loss of motor control. The effects worsen as the dose increases. When combined with alcohol or other drugs, the consequences of abuse can be deadly.

How is the Internet affecting this trend?

The Internet is a major source of information for cough medicine abusers. There are how-to sites for would-be abusers and web addresses that welcome postings and video contributions documenting cough medicine abuse episodes. Perhaps most troubling are the sites that allow teens to buy raw, unfinished dextromethorphan (the substance used by medicine makers to ultimately manufacture cough medications).

How can cough medicine abuse be stopped?

Education is the most effective way to keep kids from abusing all types of substances, including medicines. In fact, studies have shown that teens who talk a lot about drugs with their parents are half as likely to use drugs. If parents are aware of the problem, they can keep cough remedies safely out of reach of their children, recognize the signs of abuse, and educate their kids about the very real dangers.

What organizations are working to stop cough medicine abuse?

First and foremost, the makers of over-the-counter cough medicines are engaged in a multi-year, multi-pronged effort to stop the abuse of their products. In coordination with their trade association, the Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA), they are working in cooperation with substance abuse experts to combat this substance abuse behavior. (More information is available at www.StopMedicineAbuse.org.) In addition, the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, and D.A.R.E. America all are working with CHPA to raise parental awareness and provide credible information to parents. Other organizations—such as the National Women’s Health Resource Center and the National PTA—and dedicated individuals and local groups nationwide also have joined CHPA’s efforts to put an end to this dangerous teen behavior

Check out www.stopmedicineabuse.org for more information.

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EDUCATION IS
THE MOST
EFFECTIVE WAY
TO KEEP KIDS
FROM ABUSING
ALL TYPES OF
SUBSTANCES.

GO TO
WWW.FIVEMOMS.COM
FOR MORE
INFORMATION

25 WAYS TO MAKE KIDS SAFER



AT HOME

1. Teach your children their full names, address, and home phone number. Make sure they know your name.
2. Make sure your children know how to reach you at work or on your cell phone.
3. Teach your children how and when to use 911.
4. Make sure your children have a trusted adult to call if they're scared or have an emergency.
5. Instruct children to keep the door locked and not open the door to talk to anyone when they are home alone. Set rules with your children about having visitors over when you're not home and how to answer the telephone.
6. Choose babysitters with care. Obtain references from family, friends, and neighbors. Once you have chosen the caregiver, drop in unexpectedly to see how your children are doing. Ask children how the experience with the caregiver was and listen carefully to their responses.

ON THE NET

7. Learn about the Internet. The more you know about how the Web works, the better prepared you are to teach your children about potential risks.
8. Place the family computer in a common area, rather than a child's bedroom. Also, monitor their time spent online and the websites they've visited.
9. Use privacy settings on social networking sites to limit contact with unknown users.
10. Make sure screen names don't reveal too much about your children.

AT SCHOOL

11. Don't display your children's names on clothing, backpacks, lunch boxes, or bicycle license plates. When children's names are visible, it may put them on a first-name basis with someone who means them harm.
12. Remind kids to take a friend whenever they walk or bike to school.
13. Walk the route to and from school with your children, pointing out landmarks and safe places to go if they're being followed or need help. If your children ride a bus, visit the bus stop with them to make sure they know which bus to take.

OUT AND ABOUT

14. Take your children on a walking tour of the neighborhood and tell them whose homes they may visit without you.
15. Tell your children to get you if they come across a dangerous object or situation.
16. Teach your children to ask permission before leaving home.
17. Remind your children not to walk or play alone outside.
18. Teach your children not to approach any vehicle, occupied or not, unless they know the owner and are accompanied by a trusted adult.
19. Remind your children it's OK to say NO to anything that makes them feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused.
20. Don't confuse your children with the concept of "strangers." Children do not have the same understanding of who a stranger is as an adult might. The "stranger-danger" message is not effective, as danger to children is greater from someone you or they know than from a "stranger." There may also come a time when your child may need help from someone he or she doesn't know when you aren't around.
21. Set up "what if" situations and ask your children how they would respond. "What if someone asked you to help them find a lost puppy? What would you do?"
22. During family outings, establish a central, easy-to-locate spot to meet for check-ins or should you get separated.
23. Teach your children to check in with you if there is a change of plans.
24. Teach your children how to locate help at theme parks, sports stadiums, shopping malls, and other public places. Also, identify those people who are safe to ask for help, such as law enforcement, security guards and store clerks with nametags.
25. Practice safety skills so that they become second nature to your children. While you don't want to scare your children, it is important to make sure they are aware of potential dangers, so that they can be prepared to avoid them, or confidently deal with them as they happen.

MAKE SURE
SCREEN NAMES
DON'T REVEAL
TOO MUCH
ABOUT YOUR
CHILDREN

TEACH YOU
CHILDREN TO
CHECK IN WITH
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A CHANGE OF
PLANS IF THEY
ARE AWAY FROM
HOME.

NORTH FOND DU LAC
POLICE DEPARTMENT

16 Garfield St
North Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Non-Emergency Calls: 920-906-5555
Emergency: 911
Administrative: 920-929-3760

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE

WINNERS OF:

2005 WCPA 'CRIME PREVENTION
PROGRAM/PROJECT OF THE YEAR'
2001 WACOP 'SIR ROBERT PEEL
AWARD'
2000 WCPA 'OUTSTANDING
CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAM'

WE'RE ON THE WEB:

WWW.NFDL.ORG

LAW ENFORCEMENT OATH OF HONOR

On my honor,
I will never betray my badge,
my integrity, my character,
or the public trust.

I will always have the courage
to hold myself and others
accountable for our actions.

I will always uphold the Constitution,
the community and
the agency I serve.

STATE GRANT HELPS FUND PROGRAM FOR POLICE

The North Fond du Lac Police Department has received \$17,000 in grant funding to help pay for new in-car laptops and printers. The grant from the State of Wisconsin will be used to install TRACS, creating a computerized accident and citation system. The new program will have a long-term impact on efficiency at the department. In the long run it is going to save the department money and save clerks time. Accident reports and citations will be automatically sent to the state and this program automatically populates the data system.

TRACS will have an immediate effect in the field as well. Until the new software was installed, police officers had to fill out a long list of fields on a paper form after every accident. The TRACS program now auto populates many of those fields - filling in the blanks the officers' in-car laptop computer already knows. In addition, the program also contains a list of local intersections on which police can use a graphics program to recreate an accident. Police have ready to use images of things like cars, trucks, motorcycles, deer and dogs to accurately portray a scene.

Sergeant Troy Damsteegt has done much of the work to get it going. Troy attended training on the program two years ago and has been working to train the rest of the staff in the use of the program. There is going to be a little bit of a learning curve for some of the officers using it, but the more they use it, the easier it becomes. The department believes the new program will save time and money - all while providing more accurate reports and citations.

For more information on
the topics discussed in the
newsletter, please contact:

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Captain Darren Pautsch
dpautsch@nfdl.org