

# NORTH FOND DU LAC POLICE DEPARTMENT

## ***NORTH FOND DU LAC NEIGHBORHOOD POLICING TIMES***



### CHIEF LAMB'S WINTER WELCOME

Season's greetings from the men and women of the North Fond du Lac Police Department! We hope that you have a very peaceful, safe, and joy filled holiday season and a very healthy and prosperous 2009.

While the holiday season is a very joyous time of year for many of us, please remember that, tragically, it is also the time of year that many others suffer most greatly from depression. Given the joy of the holiday season I hate to remind people of this, but this is typically the Police Department's busiest time of year as it relates to interventions for serious depression and suicides or attempts. Please remember any friends, family or neighbors that may be suffering from extreme sadness, loneliness, or depression because they're alone, have recently lost a loved one, are fighting a serious illness, have lost a job, or are dealing with some other type of personal or family crisis. Always remember that the Police Department is available as a 24/7/365 resource to help people dealing with these types of crises – please do not hesitate to contact us for help or guidance. Working together, we can help brighten the holiday season for those members of our community that are dealing with difficult times.

Speaking of brightening the holiday season for people, the Police Department and our Police Benevolent Association are, once again, "adopting" a number of families in the community for the Christmas holiday. As usual, a number of area businesses, churches, schools, individuals, and other Village Departments are supporting the Police Department as we try to brighten the holiday season for some less fortunate families. This year, we've adopted 10 families. On December 23rd officers of the Police Department will begin delivering approximately 1 week's worth of groceries, including a complete Christmas turkey dinner and gifts for the family's children. We really look forward to this opportunity to help make the holidays more enjoyable for some families that need a little assistance. The Police Department began this program more than twenty years ago and, since that time, has adopted more than 250 families!

In this edition of our newsletter, you'll find an article which provides an overview of crime and incident activity in the community in 2007. As you'll see in reading that article, our community experienced some very significant reductions in several categories of criminal activity from 2006 to 2007. Unfortunately, there is also one category where criminal activity increased. As of the time I'm writing this article, 2008 has not yet ended so we don't have year end statistics to look at. Look for that information sometime in 2009. Thank you for your continuing interest in the Police Department and our community.

Sincerely,

*William B. Lamb*

Chief of Police

WINTER 2008

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- *Village Administrative Offices Closed Dec. 24th, 25th & Jan. 1st*

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#### Winners of:

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

**2001 WACOP 'Sir Robert Peel Award'**

**2000 WCPPA 'Outstanding Crime Prevention Program'**

## Police K-9 “Ajax” Remembered

The Police Department is sad to announce that retired North Fond du Lac Police K-9 “Ajax” (pronounced eye-axe) was euthanized on December 10, 2008, after suffering a sudden debilitating stroke. Ajax was born on September 19, 1995 in the Czech Republic. Following an intensive training program, Ajax joined the ranks of the Police Department on April 27, 1998, and was partnered with Sergeant Brian Liethen. Together, Ajax and Sergeant Liethen patrolled the night shift in the Village for nearly six years before Ajax was retired. During his tenure of service with the Department, Ajax was involved in numerous situations involving the search and discovery of illegal narcotics and the apprehension of fugitives within North Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County and neighboring communities. Ajax will be fondly remembered by many Village residents through the countless number of demonstrations that Sergeant Liethen and Ajax gave to various community groups and schools. Ajax was best known for his intense drive and desire to work and will be dearly missed by those that knew him.



## ALERTS

On October 3, someone wrote graffiti on a playground slide in the 1000 block of Adams Avenue. No suspects have been identified.

On October 4, someone smashed the headlight of a car parked outside a North Pioneer Road business. No arrests have been made.

On October 5, a resident on Lighthouse Lane in the Lakeshore Terrace Mobile Home community reported that a limestone carving of the State of Wisconsin was stolen from outside the home. No arrests have been made.

On October 5, a green Dodge Neon with a red Dodge ram sticker on the rear window filled up with \$20.09 in gasoline at a North Pioneer Road business, then left without paying. No suspect(s) have been identified.

On October 6, a North Pioneer Road business reported that two headlights were removed from a Volvo semi parked outside the business. No arrests have been made.

On October 6, someone caused severe damage to the bolts of a playground slide at Friendship Learning Center. No suspects have been identified.

On October 10, a resident in the 500 block of Wisconsin Avenue reported that someone stole a moon visor and cup holders from his vehicle. No arrests have been made.

On October 13, students at Horace Mann High School reported that \$70 was stolen from a hallway locker and \$35 was stolen from a locker in the team locker room. No suspects have been identified.

On October 15, a substitute teacher reported that someone had stolen \$10 from a wallet in a classroom at Horace Mann High School. No suspects have been identified.

On October 15, students from a visiting team reported to police they had \$60 cash stolen from a locker in the physical education locker room during a game at Horace Mann High School. No suspect has been identified.

On October 23, a resident on Mockingbird Lane in the Gaslight Terrace Mobile Home community reported to police that someone stole a grill, tires and a tool box from outside his residence. No arrests have been made.

On October 31, a vehicle was damaged when it drove into an open manhole after unknown suspect(s) removed the cover. No arrests have been made.

On November 4, a student at Horace Mann High School reported that someone stole an iPod from a gym locker. No suspect(s) have been identified.

On November 5, someone stole a metal car dolly from outside a business on Lakeshore Drive. No arrests have been made.

On November 9, a resident reported that someone withdrew \$500 from their account using the TYME machine at PDQ on Prospect Avenue. Police are working to identify the suspect.

On November 12, a student at Horace Mann High School reported that unknown suspect(s) removed \$43 cash from a locker in the team locker room. No arrests have been made.

On November 22, a resident on Gaslight Drive in the Gaslight Terrace Mobile Home community reported that someone damaged the mailbox outside her residence. No arrests have been made.

On November 24, a student at Horace Mann High School reported that \$30 cash was stolen from a hallway locker. No arrests have been made.

On November 25, two students at Horace Mann High School reported that \$37 cash was stolen from a locker in the team locker room. No arrests have been made.

On December 4, a student at Horace Mann High School reported that his bicycle was stolen from the bike rack. No arrests have been made.

On December 6, a resident on Robin Drive in the Gaslight Terrace Mobile Home community reported to police that someone stole a computer and components from his unlocked vehicle outside his residence. 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.

YOU CAN  
HELP SOLVE  
THESE  
CASES

### HELP

North Fond du Lac  
Police Department  
Tipline:

906-4777 ext. 3

You can remain  
anonymous.

## SOLVED

On October 6, officers were called to a home in the 600 block of Indiana Avenue after a juvenile male locked his mother out of the house following an argument. The boy was referred to juvenile court services for disorderly conduct.

On October 13, officers were called to investigate vandalism at the Village Park after Public Works employees found picnic tables had been spray painted with graffiti. Police identified a juvenile suspect. He was referred to juvenile court services for damage to property.

On October 16, a neighbor called police after witnessing three boys breaking windows at a vacant home in the 1100 block of Michigan Avenue. The boys were identified and referred to juvenile court services for damage to property.

On October 16, police received a report of the theft of two baseball caps from a classroom at Horace Mann High School. The suspect was identified and referred to juvenile court services for theft.

On October 22, during a traffic stop, officers discovered marijuana and drug paraphernalia in the vehicle. The suspect was cited for possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

On October 24, a vehicle was damaged when a driver backed into it outside a business in the 1300 block of Wisconsin Avenue. The driver left the scene without reporting the incident. Two witnesses in the parking lot were able to provide police with a description of the car and a license plate number. The driver was located and cited for Hit & Run – Unattended Vehicle.

On October 26, officers responded to a report of a loud party on Twin Lakes Drive in the Lakeshore Terrace Mobile Home community. Officers found an 18 year old woman at the residence, and she was cited for loud & unnecessary noise and underage alcohol consumption.

On October 26, a man reported to police that he had been punched in the face while attending a party in the 100 block of Harrison Street. The suspect was identified and police referred the incident to the District Attorney.

On November 1, a man fled from the scene after losing control of his car and striking a tree on Harrison Street near Prospect Avenue. The man was identified and issued a number of citations including hit & run, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

On November 8, police were notified of a party in a garage in the 400 block of Harrison Street. Officers found two 16 year old boys and a 17 year old boy inside the garage. Citations were issued for underage alcohol consumption, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

On November 13, the staff at Horace Mann High School reported that a student was being disruptive, yelling and swearing at staff. The student was issued a citation for disorderly conduct.

On November 20, the staff at Horace Mann High School reported that two students had taken food from the lunch line without paying for it. Both were issued citations for theft.

On November 20, a resident at the Pioneer Motel reported hearing yelling and crying from a neighboring apartment. Police responded and arrested a man for disorderly conduct / domestic violence.

On November 27, a bartender at a business in the 700 block of Wisconsin Avenue called police to report that a man had walked into the tavern and started a physical altercation with other patrons before leaving the bar on foot. Officers located the man and arrested him for disorderly conduct.

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



CITIZENS  
TIPS HELPED  
SOLVE  
THESE  
CASES

*(Continued on page 5)*

## SOLVED

*(Continued from page 4)*

On December 8, the staff at Horace Mann High School reported that a student had taken food from the lunch line without paying for it. The student was issued a citation for theft.

On December 10, during a traffic stop, officers discovered marijuana and drug paraphernalia on the driver. The suspect was arrested for possession of marijuana with intent to distribute.

On December 12, police were notified of a fight at Horace Mann High School. The male student who instigated the altercation was cited for disorderly conduct.

STAY ALERT  
AND BE AWARE  
OF EVERYTHING  
AROUND YOU  
AT ALL TIMES

## D.A.R.E. SAYS GOODBYE TO BESSIE ALLEN MIDDLE SCHOOL

The 2008/09 school year marks the end of D.A.R.E. at Bessie Allen Middle School. The program has been offered to 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes since 1993. Each year, the North Fond du Lac Police Department, with help from contributions from the public, offers D.A.R.E. to these students to help educate them about the dangers of drugs, alcohol and tobacco. The program lasts about 12 weeks and now incorporates lessons on bullying, prescription drugs and internet safety. The staff at Bessie Allen Middle School has always been very supportive of the program but it was time for a change. The curriculum that has been taught is geared toward 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. We have noticed over the years, younger children are becoming more knowledgeable about these issues. We feel it is important to make sure the children are receiving the information soon enough so that they will know how to handle difficult situations.

With the help of the North Fond du Lac School District, the Police Department will now be teaching D.A.R.E. class in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The Police Department believes this will give the students the necessary skills and information for when they make the transition from elementary school to middle school.

This transition has not been an easy task. The Police Department did not want any of the students to miss D.A.R.E. because we believe the information is too valuable. In order to make sure every student attended D.A.R.E., D.A.R.E. class is doubling up this year. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade class is scheduled to graduate January 13, 2009 at 12:45 pm in the auditorium at Horace Mann High School. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade class will begin D.A.R.E. lessons February 2, 2009 with graduation occurring in May.

The North Fond du Lac Police Department would like to thank the 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers (Melissa Rahn, Deb Kiser, Mikki Detert, Deanna Martin) and Principal Aaron Sadoff for their commitment to the program over the years and we look forward to working with the teachers and staff at Friendship Learning Center.



The majority of funding for the D.A.R.E. program comes from individuals and groups in our community. The NFDL Optimist Club is a major sponsor of our program. If you are interested in making a donation to help fund this program, please contact the Police Department at (920)929-3760.

## Summary of 2007 Police Activity

At the end of each year we closely examine the criminal and unlawful activity from that year and compare it to the statistics and data from previous years. The following information is a summary of crime, arrests, and related police activity in our community in 2007, along with some comparisons to data compiled from 2006. As of the preparation of this article, 2008 hasn't yet ended so year end statistics and data aren't available.

In 2007 the overall number of crimes/incidents that the police department received or generated decreased by 2.8% from 2006 to 2007. In 2006 the police department registered 4,585 crimes/incidents and that number decreased to 4,455 in 2007. A categorical breakdown of those crimes/incidents is as follows:

<u>Category of Crime/Activity</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>% increase/decrease</u>
Crimes Against Persons	105	128	+ 18%
Crimes Against Property	291	260	- 11%
Crimes Against Peace/Order	619	504	- 19%
Domestic Violence	45	31	- 31%
Traffic Incidents	1,329	1,174	- 12%
Animal Complaints	185	144	- 22%
Juvenile Incidents	210	116	- 45%
Other	1,801	2,098	+ 14%

As you can see, there were some very significant changes in crime and related incidents in our community between 2006 and 2007. While we're very disappointed that there was such a significant increase (18%) in the number of crimes committed against persons in our community, we are very pleased to report that the number of property crimes, crimes related to peace and order, and domestic violence incidents all went down by a very significant rate. While we're very happy with all of these reductions, we are most pleased with the 31% reduction in the incidence of domestic violence in our community because, as we all know, there are few crimes that cause as much physical and emotional devastation as domestic violence.

Over the course of the past few years, the men and women of the police department have been using a variety of strategies to help reduce the number of quality of life criminal acts and disturbances in our community. Two of the major strategies that we've used to achieve those reductions have been an increased emphasis on targeted patrol areas and a strict enforcement/pro-arrest policy where quality of life violations are observed. While criminal and disturbance activity in a community is influenced by literally hundreds or thousands of social factors, we're quite confident that these efforts have played an integral role in many of these reductions in criminal activity. With that said, the increase in crimes against persons committed in our community is of major concern and is something that we continue to work diligently to address.

Although the number of property crimes decreased from 2006 to 2007 the value of stolen property actually increased - \$50,450 worth of property was stolen in the Village in 2006, compared to \$64,625 in 2007. However, approximately \$50,000 of the property that was stolen in 2007 was taken in a single theft/burglary.

As we have routinely and very publicly stated in the past, the vast majority of thefts that are committed in our community are, in essence, totally preventable. We have found that up to 75% of the items that are stolen in the Village are taken from unlocked cars, homes, and garages, or from other non-secure locations. In the perfect world we wouldn't have to lock up or secure our belongings but, unfortunately, you just don't find many communities where you can get away with that anymore! Thieves and burglars are typically opportunists and look for easy prey or targets - if we could get everyone in our community to keep their valuables locked up or secured we could literally decrease our theft rate by more than 50 or 75%!

The number of criminal arrests (which are basically arrests for more serious offenses) made by the department increased significantly from 2006 to 2007. In 2007 the department made 338 criminal arrests as compared to 233 in 2006 – an increase of 31%. Of the 338 criminal arrests made in 2007, 280 were for non-traffic related offenses and 58 were for traffic violations. Although the types of criminal arrests made by the department varied greatly, the majority of the offenses leading up to these arrests were for sexual assaults, drug offenses, battery/assaults, disorderly conduct, thefts, resisting an officer, criminal damage to property, and warrant apprehensions. The criminal traffic offense arrests were primarily related to operating while intoxicated (2<sup>nd</sup> offense or greater) and operating after revocation.

In addition to the 338 criminal arrests made by the department in 2007, we also issued 660 citations for non-criminal ordinance and traffic offenses. That number is down by approximately 5% from 2006 when we issued 697 citations. Of that number, 213 of those citations were issued for non-traffic related offenses. As with the criminal arrests, the offenses which resulted in the issuance of citations varied greatly. The majority of those non-traffic related citations were issued for the following types of unlawful acts or behavior; disorderly conduct, underage possession/consumption of alcohol, theft, damage to property, and truancy. The remaining 447 citations were issued for traffic related offenses. Those traffic related citations were primarily issued for operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated (1<sup>st</sup> offense), failure to stop at a stop sign, speeding, non-registration of a motor vehicle, seatbelt violations, and operating a vehicle with suspended registration.

There were 101 motor vehicle accidents in the community in 2007. That number represents an increase of approximately 25% over 2006 when we had 76 accidents. Fortunately, there were no fatal accidents and only 3 injuries were sustained. Of the 101 accidents in 2007, 61 were reportable (more serious) and 40 were non-reportable. Sixteen of those accidents were hit and runs.

The factors that contributed most to motor vehicle accidents in our community were unsafe backing, inattentive driving, and failure to yield right of way. Here are some additional facts and figures regarding traffic accidents in our community in 2007:

- The day of the week with the highest incidence rate for accidents was Saturday.
- The age group that caused the highest number of accidents was 36-55.
- The peak time of day for accidents was between 10:00AM and 11:00AM.
- Male and female drivers contributed equally to causing accidents (nearly a 50/50 split).

The department issued 208 parking tickets in 2007, compared to 112 in 2006.

As a crime prevention measure and service to the home and business owners of the community, we conducted 804 house checks (as compared to 491 in 2006), and 5,887 business checks (as compared to 4,711 in 2006). During the course of conducting those 5,887 business checks, there were 82 times when our officers found that the business owner or their employees had left for the evening/weekend and neglected to lock the door(s). When those “open doors” are discovered we try to contact the business owner to advise them of the issue, offer to check the interior of the building to be sure nobody has gone inside, and to lock the door for them. Often times the business owner will come to that location to help properly secure the building(s).

The number of use of force incidents that our officers were involved in increased from 10 incidents in 2006 to 15 in 2007. Fortunately, none of the officers or the subjects involved in those use of force incidents were seriously injured or killed. One officer was assaulted in 2007 but was not seriously injured.

As previously indicated, this is a summary of crime, arrests, and related police activity in our community. If you'd like to review these statistics more in-depth, including a neighborhood specific breakdown of activity, you can go to our website at [www.nfdl.org](http://www.nfdl.org) (click on the Police Department link) and view our 2007 Annual Report. Or, you may contact Chief William Lamb at 920-929-3760 or via email at [wlamb@nfdl.org](mailto:wlamb@nfdl.org) to request a copy of that report. Also, over the course of the past several years we've given a number of presentations on this information to different community groups, and have been told that those in attendance found them to be very interesting and worthwhile. If you or your group would be interested in a presentation on this information, please do not hesitate to contact Chief Lamb.

## Police Department Citizen's Academy

In 2009 the North Fond du Lac Police Department will be holding a Citizen's Academy to provide community members with a very unique opportunity to obtain a working knowledge of the policies and operations of the department, and to meet and learn about department personnel and their responsibilities. All aspects of department operations will be covered and will include, but not be limited to, patrol operations, criminal investigations, officer training, crime prevention, department budget and administration. We'll also be covering some of the department's specialized units or assignments, such as our Tactical Response Team, Motor Unit, School Resource Officer, and Crime Scene/Evidence Technician. The program will run for eight weeks and will include a blend of demonstrations, lectures, tours, hands on experiences, and a ride-a-long with a patrol officer. Participants will find the program to be a very dynamic and extremely interesting educational experience.

The exact dates for the Citizen's Academy will be determined and advertised in January of 2009. The program is anticipated to run between mid February and mid April. This program will only be held once in 2009. It will be offered free of charge to any person 18 years of age or older that resides or works in the Village of North Fond du Lac. Although there is no charge to participate in the program, pre-registration will be required. Class size will be limited, so early registration will be important.

Please help us spread the word about this opportunity and, if interested, do not hesitate to immediately contact Chief William Lamb for more details or to reserve your place in the Academy. You may contact Chief Lamb at 920-929-3760 or via email at [wlamb@nfdl.org](mailto:wlamb@nfdl.org)

LEARN  
ABOUT  
OUR  
TACTICAL  
TEAM &  
MOTOR  
UNIT

OBTAIN A  
BASIC  
KNOWLEDGE  
OF CRIMINAL  
INVESTIGATI-  
ONS



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

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WE'RE ON THE WEB:

[WWW.NFDL.ORG](http://WWW.NFDL.ORG)

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## 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.

### Winter Parking Reminder

The Winter Parking season for North Fond du Lac is defined as November 1 through March 31 of the following year. The Police Department would like to remind residents about the Winter Parking regulations. Please cooperate with public works crews by following the restrictions that have been established so that they can be most effective in keeping our roads safe.

The ordinance specifies that between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. during the snow removal season, it shall be illegal to park any vehicle on any street, highway, or any terrace, street, or highway right of way, during or after any snowfall where the accumulation of snow is one inch or more and the parking of a vehicle on the street, alley, highway, terrace, or right of way interferes with the timely and efficient removal of snow.

Parking penalties for the first violation of the winter parking ordinance during any snow removal season will be \$15.00 (\$30 if not paid within 5 days). The penalty for the second violation shall be \$30.00 (\$45 if not paid within 5 days). The third violation shall be \$50.00 (\$65 if not paid within 5 days), and the fine for any fourth or subsequent violation of the winter parking ordinance during a snow removal season shall be \$100.00.

During any time of snow emergency, which is determined by the Director of Public Works, all vehicles will be required to be moved off the streets by 2 a.m. Failure to adhere to this section will result in citation and towing of vehicles, which are in violation, at owner's expense.

If you have any questions regarding the ordinance, please feel free to contact the North Fond du Lac Police Department administrative office @ 929-3760. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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

Chief William Lamb

[wlamb@nfdl.org](mailto:wlamb@nfdl.org)

Captain Darren Pautsch

[dpautsch@nfdl.org](mailto:dpautsch@nfdl.org)

**Winter parking  
is in effect from  
November 1 to  
March 31 of the  
following year.**