



Press Release
North Fond du Lac Police Department
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www.nfdl.org



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The North Fond du Lac Police DARE program recently accepted contributions from Dr. Orvis Johnson, D.D.S.; North Fond du Lac Optimists; Bessie Allen PTO; and the Knights of Columbus. In addition to providing financial support for 2005, each of these donors has been a long time supporter of the DARE program since it was implemented in North Fond du Lac in 1994.

The DARE program has been and continues to be offered to sixth grade students at Bessie Allen Middle School based largely on community contributions and other fundraising efforts.

"The DARE program provides not only valuable life lessons for the children, but also the opportunity for positive interaction between youth and police," Chief William Lamb told us. "It is because of contributions like these that we are able to continue those efforts."

School Resource Officer (SRO) Troy Damsteegt serves as the department's primary DARE instructor. SRO Damsteegt further elaborated on the positive interaction the program promotes. "I know there are some people that question the effectiveness of DARE. Still, I have personally experienced the program's success; I've actually had graduates from high school approach me and strike up conversations based on DARE lesson plans they had while in school."

Photo: (L-R) Jeff Pier, NFDL Optimists President; Jim Moore, NFDL Optimists; Michelle Berger, Bessie Allen student; William Lamb, NFDL Chief of Police; Diane Berger, Bessie Allen PTO President; Stephanie Hicken, Bessie Allen student; Troy Damsteegt, SRO/DARE Officer; Tammy Hicken, Bessie Allen PTO Treasurer; Doug Shireman, Knights of Columbus; Dr. Orvis Johnson, Family Dentistry.