



Colonel Tim Fitch
Chief of Police

“Roll Call”

The St Louis County Police Departments West County Precinct’s Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

January 2010

West County Precinct
645 Big Bend
St Louis, MO 63021
636-256-2602

Your Neighborhood Policing Staff

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Officer Kevin Templeton
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Important Numbers

Crime Tip/Traffic Violation
Hotline-636-256-7075
Safe Schools Hotline
314-889-SAFE (7233)

Captain’s Corner

With respect to our Department’s pledge to provide the best possible police service to the citizens we serve, I have good news to report. Funding has been approved for the construction of a new police station for the West County Precinct. The new precinct station will be located at 232 Vance Road. The station will be centrally located in the precinct, about one half mile west of Highway 141 on Vance Road. It will be a full service police station open 24-hours. This new facility will greatly enhance our delivery of police services to ensure that St. Louis County continues to be a safe place to work and raise a family. We anticipate moving into our new station in April and will be making an announcement regarding an open house event. I look forward to seeing you there.

“Citizen of the Month”

The citizen of the month for January is Susan Pregon. We want to recognize Susan for her work in establishing and maintaining an active Neighborhood Watch Program in the Summit Heights Subdivision. Due to Susan’s efforts, many of the residents who participate in the program are on alert to immediately report any suspicious activity in the neighborhood. Crime prevention is an important element of police services and we appreciate all the support Susan has given to us.

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator Meeting

Our next Neighborhood Watch Coordinators meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 27, 2010. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm and will be held in the clubhouse of the Tree Top Condos located at 701 Sandy Summit. There will be a guest speaker from the Sex Offender Registration Unit. Anyone interested in organizing a watch program is also invited to attend. Snacks and refreshments will be served. Watch Coordinators; please have a Block Captain attend if you are unable.

UPCOMING EVENTS

EXPLORER TRIVIA NIGHT

The 5th Annual Explorer Post 9774 Trivia Night will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2010 at 6:30 P.M. The event will be held at the Meramec Bluffs Lutheran Senior Services located at #1 Meramec Bluffs (at intersection of Vance/Sulphur Spring Road). The cost is \$10 per person. Sodas and snacks will be provided. Please feel free to bring additional food for your table. Sorry, alcoholic beverages are not permitted. Tables of up to 10 persons are permitted. Please contact Officer Dusty Poncin at dponcin@stlouisco.com or 636-256-7075 for reservations or questions.

CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY STARTS FEBRUARY 2010.

The West County and Fenton Precincts will host a Citizen Police Academy that will begin on March 4, 2010. The academy will run for eight consecutive Thursdays with graduation scheduled for April 22, 2010. The classes will be held in the Rockwood Bank meeting room at 1037 Majestic Drive (near the intersection of Highway 141 and Centurion). We are now reserving seats. For more information or to enroll, please contact Officer Lou Major at 636-256-7075 or at lmajor@stlouisco.com

CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The West County Chapter of the Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association made the holidays much brighter for two families in need. Thanks to the generosity of the members of this outstanding organization, two local families were able to enjoy the holidays during this difficult economic time. We want to thank the Alumni Association and all its' members who made this possible. The two families have expressed their sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone.

ATM FRAUD ALERT

The St. Louis County Police Department has issued a report warning that a bank in Clayton, Missouri discovered a "skimmer" device on their lobby's ATM. The device had been set to wirelessly transmit financial information, including card number and PIN, from each cardholder who attempted to utilize the ATM's services.

When using any ATM machine, remember to:

- Inspect the ATM or card reader for any suspicious devices prior to using the machine.
- Use ATM's that are located at your bank or credit union.
- Use ATM's in well-lit public areas.
- Be suspicious of anyone who approaches you while using the ATM, especially if they ask you questions concerning usage of the machine.
- If you observe anything unusual or suspicious, immediately notify the bank or report your suspicions to the police.

NORTH SECTOR

- On 12/3/09, officers responded to a residence in the 100 block of Cascade Circle Drive for a report of a robbery and home invasion. A resident reported an unknown subject entered the residence and stole numerous items. Further investigation revealed a crime did not occur and the resident made a false report. Detectives will present this case to the prosecuting attorney's office.
- On 12/6/09, a female reported she was assaulted at an apartment near Weidman and Manchester Roads. Detectives are conducting the follow up investigation.
- On 12/17/09, Officer Wilken initiated an investigation involving an offense that occurred near Wickstead and Weidman Roads. Since the victim was identified as a minor, the Child Abuse Unit was notified and will conduct the follow up investigation.
- On 12/21/09, an investigation of an alleged sexual assault that occurred at a residence in the 1000 block of Pinrun was initiated. A detective from the Bureau of Crimes Against Persons was assigned to conduct the follow up investigation.
- In the early morning hours of Christmas, a homeowner in the 1300 block of Dietrich Oaks was taking out the garbage when she went into her open garage. She found an unknown male subject inside the garage and when discovered, he immediately ran from the scene. A toolbox and refrigerator had been opened but nothing was missing. This case was referred to the burglary detective for investigation.

SOUTH SECTOR

- On 12/2/09, officers arrested a subject for Domestic Assault at a residence in the 500 block of Summit View.
- On 12/8/09, two victims reported that a GPS unit and various credit cards were stolen from an unlocked vehicle parked in the 500 block of Stanton Court.
- A disturbance at a business in Bentley Plaza on 12/9/09 resulted in the arrest of a suspect for assaulting his father. The suspect was charged with Domestic Assault 2nd Degree.
- On 12/10/09, a closed business in Bentley Plaza was forcibly entered into and a cash drawer was stolen. The burglary detective is conducting the investigation of this crime.
- On 12/18/09, an investigation involving a runaway juvenile in the 500 block of May Valley Drive was initiated. When the juvenile was located, the suspect was charged with Possession Of Alcohol By A Minor and the case was referred to Family Court.
- On 12/26/09, officers arrested a subject for multiple peace disturbance violations at an apartment complex in the 1100 block of Caballo Court.

CLARKSON VALLEY---VALLEY PARK---WINCHESTER ---TWIN OAKS

- On 11/29/09, officers investigated the theft of 10 bottles of vodka from a business in the 1200 block of Dougherty Ferry Road. Two white males and a white female are alleged to have stolen the liquor.
- After responding to a disturbance on Lambert Drury Drive on 12/13/09, officers arrested a subject who assaulted a victim and also displayed a handgun in a threatening manner. The suspect was held in the St. Louis County Jail and warrants were issued for Unlawful use of a Weapon and Assault 2nd Degree.
- On 12/17/09, a suspect was arrested by officers in the 100 block of Meramec Valley Plaza for selling alcohol to a minor. An Arrest Notification was issued for an appearance in the Municipal Court of the City of Valley Park.
- On 12/31/09, two residents of an apartment on Vance Road were surprised when a subject forced open the door of their apartment. The intruder fled the residence but was apprehended by officers a short time later. The subject was charged with Burglary 1st and Destruction of Property.

ALERT CITIZEN AIDS IN DRUG BUST

On 12/2/09, an alert citizen observed suspicious activity in a parked motor vehicle in the vicinity of 13600 Manchester Road and called the police. Officer Lindeman responded to the call and observed the reported vehicle leaving a parking lot and conducted an investigative stop. Officer Lindeman received consent from the driver and conducted a search of the vehicle. The search produced two containers containing the illegal drugs of marijuana and heroin. The person in control of these drugs was arrested. Officer Lindeman will apply for warrants at the St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

I-44 TRAFFIC STOP YIELDS TEXAS "LEMON LIME" MARIJUANA

On 12/12/09, Officer Abelov observed a westbound car on I-44 and conducted a routine check of the license plate. The license plate inquiry revealed that the owner of the car had an outstanding warrant for possessing a controlled substance. After stopping the car, Officer Abelov identified and arrested the wanted subject. After obtaining consent to search the car, Officer Abelov seized marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

On 12/14/09, Officer Abelov stopped a motorist for speeding on I-44. After smelling marijuana and informing the driver of his observations, the motorist admitted to being in possession of marijuana that he had purchased while in Texas. The suspect identified the marijuana as "lemon lime marijuana" because of its' unique odor and composition. The marijuana and drug paraphernalia were seized. The suspect was taken to the St. Louis County Jail and charged with Drug Trafficking, Possession of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Good job Officer Abelov!

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS FOR THE WORKPLACE

Always try to implement crime prevention measures when at work. Quite often, we respond to businesses and contact employees who have become victims of crime while at their workplace. Purses that are left underneath desks have been stolen and even electronic items in private offices go missing. Please secure all purses when unattended. Secure work vans that are parked at loading docks. Thieves are aware that these work trucks usually contain expensive tools or equipment. Always be observant. Report all suspicious persons loitering in parking lots, lobbies and hallways. When leaving work at the end of the day, it is good practice to lock all desks and cabinets and secure all high dollar items such as laptops or other portable electronic devices. In the event of theft, make sure there is a list of serial numbers with descriptive product information such as brand and model numbers.

STATISTICS ANYONE?

For the month of December 2009, officers of the West County Precinct issued 276 radar citations, 274 citations for various moving violations, 391 citations for non-moving violations and 73 parking tickets. Officers completed 460 reports, arrested 30 subjects for felony crimes and 56 subjects for misdemeanor crimes. Officers arrested 7 intoxicated motorists.

POLICE PHONE NUMBERS

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|---------------------------|--------------|
| Non-Emergency Dispatch | 314-889-2341 |
| West County Precinct | 636-256-2602 |
| Neighborhood Policing | 636-256-7075 |
| Crime Tip/Traffic Hotline | 636-256-7075 |
| Safe Schools Hotline | 314-889-7233 |
| Drug Hotline | 314-863-3673 |
| CrimeStoppers | 866-371-8477 |

PHONE NUMBERS

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Animal Control | 314-726-6655 |
| Child Abuse Hotline | 800-392-3738 |
| KUTO Teen Helpline | 314-644-5886 |
| Neighborhood Preservation | 314-615-4151 |
| Highways and Traffic | 314-615-8504 |